

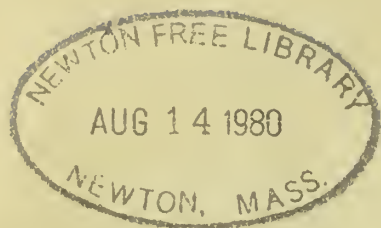
NEWTON CITY HALL
BROADCAST
1949-1950

Newton Call



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STATION WCRB

NEWTON CITY HALL SERIES

RADIO BROADCAST - AUGUST 1, 1949

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - DR. ERNEST M. MORRIS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Good afternoon, friends. This is Bill Sherman-Goes-Calling. Today I am calling from Newton City Hall. Right now I'm in the office of Dr. Ernest M. Morris, Director of Public Health. We're going to talk right now to a friend of ours, Harold T. Pilsbury, Director of Research, who is going to explain a bit about what these programs are going to cover. There are twenty-four of them, aren't there with fourteen Boards?

Mr. Pilsbury: Yes, Bill, that is almost correct. There are twenty-three Departments and fourteen unpaid Boards which comprise the official family of the City of Newton. Well, Bill, I'm glad to greet you this afternoon at Newton City Hall. We want you to know, too, that we are grateful to the management of Radio Station WCRB, to you, Bill Sherman, the Special Events Director, and to Harold Richardson, your News Editor, for the opportunity and the privilege of bringing to the citizenry of Newton pertinent information concerning the Newton City Government, and the what, where, and how of matters pertaining to the functions and cost of our City Government in all its phases. We want our citizens to have a true picture, one of which we are certain they will be proud rather than one that may be warped and not all-inclusive.

We anticipate, Bill, on subsequent Mondays at this same hour, to acquaint and educate our Newton citizens with the twenty-three Departments and fourteen Boards whose functions make our City tick well; all of whom are responsible to the City's Chief Executive, Mayor Theodore R. Lockwood.

Our public relations activity will embrace subjects of first interest first, that our citizens may have more complete information which will result in their improved opinions, judgments, conclusions, and decisions.

Today we inaugurate this City Government Series by letting you hear direct from Dr. Ernest M. Morris, Director of Public Health, under whose direction Newton has become nationally known in public health achievement as a most healthy community in which to live. Bill, may I present to you, Dr. Morris?

Bill Sherman: You sure may, Harold Pilsbury, Director of Research at Newton City Hall, and thanks a lot. That certainly clears up what we're doing on these twenty-three broadcasts. Dr. Morris, Director of Public Health, how are you this afternoon?

Dr. Morris: I am fine, Bill. How are you this afternoon?

Bill Sherman: Naturally, when I'm in your office I'm going to talk about health and what you fellows are doing to aid the people of Newton. How I'd like to ask you some questions, but first do you want to start with anything particularly in mind?

Dr. Morris: Yes, I would. I would like to say first that health can't

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be measured in dollars and cents, but health service can so be measured. In order that each Newton citizen may have a comprehensive idea of the services available, the following list has been compiled. Many of these services are provided to you without your knowledge. Others are available for the asking by merely calling the Health Department.

1. The scientific supervision of the Newton water supply.
2. The detailed field and laboratory control of your milk supply.
3. Periodic inspection of all food stores here in Newton, including restaurants, bars, meat markets, fish markets, grocery stores, and bakery shops.

4. Prompt investigation of all complaints referred to the Health Department, and statements of any health nuisances discovered.
5. Competent service for the investigation and control of the common communicable diseases.
6. The promotion of immunization against diphtheria and smallpox of all children, and the immunization without charge for those who cannot obtain private service.
7. Free clinic for the examination of all suspected cases of tuberculosis, contacts of cases, other special risks, and all cases referred by private physicians maintained at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital, in cooperation with the County Sanatorium.
8. A free clinic for the treatment of syphilis and gonorrhea maintained at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital.
9. The distribution of free biological products for the treatment and prevention of communicable diseases to all physicians.
10. Hospitalization of patients suffering from communicable diseases, who are a danger to the public health and unable to obtain such care themselves.
11. Modern sanatorium care of all cases of tuberculosis.
12. Health supervision of the pre-school child, including an annual physical examination, a nutritional history and dental examination, and advice as to the health needs of the child.
13. A comprehensive school health service, including detailed physical examinations of school children to detect and promote the correction of existing physical defects, promotion of health, prevention of communicable disease, the adjustment of individual health problems, and distribution of general health instruction.
14. A continuous system of health education through consultation in the home, public addresses, exhibits, newspaper articles and printed material issued by the Health Department.
15. The bookkeeping of human life, through the detailed analysis of births, deaths, and communicable diseases reported to the Department.
16. Employment of the staff of public health nurses to interpret to citizens and their children modern knowledge regarding personal health, including the fields of child and adult health, tuberculosis control, and communicable disease supervision.
17. Employment of a Health Officer, whose duty it is to plan the program, obtain adequate funds for the support of the program, obtain well-trained personnel, direct and coordinate their efforts, and impart to the public the knowledge of the objectives and functions of the Newton Health Department.
18. A mosquito control program.
19. A heart demonstration program.
20. Sanitation of eating utensils.
21. Testing of water for pollution of swimming places.
22. A nutrition program.

Bill Sherman: Those twenty-two points you have covered quite adequately, Doctor. I'd like to get into some of the questions in detail. For example, you mentioned milk control.

Dr. Morris: Well, although 100% of the Newton milk is pasteurized for the protection of the health of Newton citizens, the Health Department still believes in clean production, and to that end sends its inspectors into the country to see that the milk comes from clean cows and healthy cattle.

At present, we are doing examination chiefly where it is most needed; namely, among the producers whose milk shows a high bacterial count. Inspectors also get out early mornings and take samples of milk and cream for analysis from dealers' wagons.

Bill Sherman: In other words, you are on the job all the time. Now, how about the phrase you used -- "bookkeeping of human life?" What did you mean by that, Doctor?

Doctor Morris: Well, too often no credit is given to the office staff, but they have a distinct place in the entire program. They receive and record all births, deaths, and communicable disease cases, so that a detailed analysis may be made from year to year, and future work may be determined by the problems determined by such analysis.

These workers also keep the financial accounts of the Department, receive complaints, disperse information by telephone, and do the bookkeep of each division and each individual worker.

Bill Sherman: I'm glad you brought that out, Doctor, because so many people that make up a City Hall like this are all employed here, and they do a lot of work--and, of course, they are behind the scenes.

However--nurses, now--that's always interesting. Your nurses are working all the time. Would you like to tell us a little about them?

Doctor Morris: Yes. The nursing program at Newton is different from practically all other Massachusetts communities, in that Newton provides a multi-phased program. That is, each nurse carries out all the various phases of the program in her district. In other communities, we find nurses doing only communicable diseases or tuberculosis cases, eye cases, venereal disease cases, or school health work. It is possible for the whole five nurses to be interested in one case and to descend on the family at one time. This would not happen in Newton, since each nurse would take care of all situations arising in that one case. The specialized services cause much repetition and it is an expensive way of doing the work.

Bill Sherman: All right, now, how about mosquito control?

Doctor Morris: Well, mosquito control is done under the Middlesex Mosquito Control Project in cooperation with surrounding communities. When the mosquitoes are found, the breeding places are eliminated and those present are also eliminated by spraying with DDT. A pumping station has been erected in Scribner's Swamp, and that area has been drained, causing untold benefits to the residents of that area. Considerable ditch-digging has been done in order to destroy breeding places of mosquitoes.

Bill Sherman: I see. Now, Doctor, we only have a few minutes left. I know you could go into detail about a lot of the things you've covered. I'd like to ask you a bit about yourself. Are you from Newton--a native from way back?

Doctor Morris: No, I'm not a Newton native, but I was born in the state of Massachusetts and have lived here all my life.

Bill Sherman: Where do you live now, Doctor?

Doctor Morris: At the present time, on account of the housing shortage, I have been unable to obtain a place in Newton.

Bill Sherman: I know that--that's the trouble with a lot of places, of course, not only Newton. But, my gosh, if we can't get the Doctor a place--We'll have to do something about that, Doctor. The reason I'm doing this is that a lot of people would like to meet you, too, not only in your job, as you've been fulfilling right now--you've been being a Doctor. I was just talking about you as a citizen and your work here in Newton. I know they like you here, and I just wanted to know. I hope you get that house, Doctor.

Doctor Morris: I hope so, too, Bill.

Bill Sherman: It would make it all the more convenient for us Newtonites to know that you're right at hand.

Doctor Morris: Well, I'm at hand, anyway. I'm here most of the time.

Bill Sherman: That's it. You have to live here. Well, I want to get to Harold T. Pilsbury. You didn't mind my asking the Doctor where he was from? Harold, where are you from?

Mr. Pilsbury: I live in Newton, and I've been here just a few years. I originally came from Providence, Rhode Island.

Bill Sherman: And you like it here?

Mr. Pilsbury: I love it here.

Bill Sherman: Most of the fellows that I meet that have come to Newton seem to like it very much. You've got a place?

Mr. Pilsbury: That's right. I was one of the fortunate ones. Doc and I will have to get together sometime and see how it's done.

Bill Sherman: Good point to bring up, Harold. Now you have with you a friend of yours, James P. Reynolds, Director of Public Welfare.

Mr. Pilsbury: Yes. While you were interviewing Doctor Morris, I prevailed upon Mr. Reynolds to step in here because next week you'll have the pleasure of listening to Jim's story about welfare. And at this time, Bill, I'd like to present to you James P. Reynolds, the Director of Public Welfare for the City of Newton.

Bill Sherman: Thank you, and hello, Jim. I'm glad to see you.

Mr. Reynolds: Bill, I'm glad to see you, too.

Bill Sherman: You have sort of an idea about the Doctor's baptism of fire in this First of a Series of twenty-four broadcasts, haven't you, Jim?

Mr. Reynolds: I certainly have, and I'll be looking forward to that baptism next Monday afternoon.

Bill Sherman: Wonderful. You see, Doctor, you gave him a break. You were the first one on the list.

Doctor Morris: Well, that's very good. I'm glad he enjoyed it.

Bill Sherman: Did you say you enjoyed it, Jim?

Mr. Reynolds: Very much. I always enjoy hearing the Doctor speak.

Bill Sherman: That's wonderful. Say, Jim, are you going to tell us about the Director's job in Public Welfare?

Mr. Reynolds: I'll be glad to, Bill.

Bill Sherman: All right, that's fine. And I want to thank you, Dr. Ernest M. Morris, Director of Public Health, for being the first to talk to us in our Series of City Hall Broadcasts.

Doctor Morris: I'm very pleased to do it, Bill, and I hope it comes out very well.

Bill Sherman; And Harold, thanks a lot, and we'll see you next Monday, too, I believe.

Mr. Pilsbury: Next Monday afternoon, as usual, Bill. We'll be looking for you.

Bill Sherman: When am I going to get to your office, as Director of Research?

Mr. Pilsbury: Well, we'll be down the list a way, but we have some very important departments that we want to get acquainted with, and also our citizens here in Newton, because as I stated here in the first place, we want to take first things first.

Bill Sherman: That's right. I want to thank you again, Doctor Ernest M. Morris, Director of Public Health here in City Hall; Harold T. Pilsbury, Director of Research, and James P. Reynolds, whom you hear next Monday at 3:45 to 4:00, as Director of Public Welfare.

This Series of Broadcasts has been designed and fashioned so that you people out here and all surrounding towns may hear how the Newtonites are doing it in their City Hall, bringing the follows behind the walls of City Hall right out into your home. This is the Charles River Broadcasting Company.

Monday, August 8, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS

We welcome you, Bill, again to the Newton City Hall as Director of the Special Events Program, for Radio Station WCRB, 1330 on the dial.

This afternoon we anticipate dealing with three categories of public assistance with which the City of Newton is concerned, namely Aid to Dependent Children, Old Age Assistance, General Relief, and Aid Granted at the City Infirmary.

This question of Relief under the statutes of Massachusetts and the Federal Government require, that assistance given, in all categories of public assistance, shall be based on "Need". "Need" may be defined as a condition resulting from lack of income or other resources sufficient to maintain a standard of living compatible with health, self-respect and decency. Sound procedures, to establish that need, exist here in Newton. The how, to determine the assistance required, also the matter of providing for the economic welfare of needy persons will be discussed this afternoon by the Agent of the Board of Public Welfare, James P. Reynolds, whose offices are located right here in the Newton City Hall. Bill, I'm happy to present to you Jim Reynolds, Director of Public Welfare, the man who, for the citizenry of Newton, directs whatever financial aid or social services, may be needed, to help keep the home together and make it all it should mean.

Bill - - - Jim Reynolds.

Next week - "The Best in Recreation Facilities for the Citizens of Newton" will be discussed by our Recreation Commissioner, C. Evan Johnson.

As a matter of fact, Bill, I asked Ev Johnson to step in while you were interviewing Jim Reynolds, and I would like to have you fellows - - say "Hello".

RADIO BROADCAST - AUGUST 8, 1949

BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE - JAMES P. REYNOLDS, AGENT

Bill, I welcome this opportunity of bringing to our fellow citizens a brief description of the Welfare Department's function in civic life.

The Newton Board of Public Welfare is responsible under State Law for all public assistance granted in this City, except that given under the Veterans' Program. There are four types of assistance rendered: Old Age Assistance, Aid to Dependent Children, General Relief, and Aid Granted in the City Infirmary. Two of these, namely, Old Age Assistance and Aid to Dependent Children, are subsidized by both the State and Federal Governments. The Commonwealth also has financial responsibility for certain General Relief cases.

A brief examination of Welfare Department expenditures and income for the year 1948 will show that against the total cost of public relief in Newton for last year, which was \$941,000.00, there was an income from Federal, State and other City Governments of \$621,000.00. This in simple figures means that Newton's share of financial responsibility was only \$320,000.00 or only 34 per cent of total cost.

O.A.A. -

Whereas all public relief is given on a need basis in the Old Age Assistance Program a person may have up to \$300.00 in resources or savings accounts. To be eligible for Old Age Assistance there are three primary essentials, all of which require definite proof: One must be a citizen, be 65 years of age or over, and have resided for three out of the last nine years in Massachusetts, one of these being the last full year. At present there are 900 Old Age recipients in Newton receiving an average monthly grant of \$64.25. This assistance is given in cash on the first and fifteenth of each month, the checks being mailed directly to the home of the recipient.

AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN is public assistance based on need, which provides a monthly cash allowance for the support of Dependent Children under 16 years of age or under 18 years of age if attending school. These children must have been deprived of parental support by reason of death, continued absence from home, or physical or mental incapacity of a parent. The child must be living with and cared for by a blood relative in a home conducive to proper environment for the child. This type of assistance was formerly known as Mothers' Aid, but in 1937 a State Law was passed liberalizing the Program to include, for the protection of the child, other relatives in case of a mother's death or continued absence. In 1948, Newton spent a total of \$184,000.00 on this Program. There are at present 150 Aid to Dependent Children families in Newton, representing a total of 500 mothers and children.

GENERAL RELIEF in Newton, as in all communities of the Commonwealth, is granted to individuals or families having residence in the City who are unable through their own efforts to provide themselves with the minimum requirements of support. Briefly, if you or I find ourselves, through loss of employment or sickness, in need of the essentials of life, we may apply to our local Welfare Office, and if we can properly establish this need, we are granted assistance by the Local Board of Public Welfare. The principal causes of need for General Relief are unemployment and sickness. This type of assistance is granted to those who are not eligible for either Old Age Assistance or Aid to Dependent Children. We have approximately 130 such cases in Newton, and in 1948 spent a total of \$70,000.00 on this Program.

CITY INFIRMARY Our City Infirmary, located in Newton Highlands, cares for 26 men and women who have become homeless and lack support through reasons of senility and inability to work or properly care for cash funds. These people may well be called "The Forgotten Souls" of the community, having few relatives or friends who are interested in their well-being. It is our purpose to properly care for such persons and bring to them, as far as we are able, the happiness of a well-ordered life, in pleasant surroundings.

The Federal Government, the State and locality cannot give effective aid by mere statistical perfection. To achieve a well coordinated relief program, it is essential that our staff members be well qualified and possess if possible that rare combination of attributes -- human understanding and firmness of purpose and decision. Right here, I would like to pay tribute to my associates in the Department - the supervisors, the social workers and the clerical staff all of whom in fulfilling their duties consider neither time or selves in this work of service.

As social workers, we are dealing with our neighbors, their troubles, and their problems. It is our job - - through common-sense casework and financial assistance - - to help these neighbors solve their problems, without creating a dependency that may become damaging to them and to the taxpayers.

There are many social problems that constantly appear in connection with our work in the field of Public Assistance. Some of these, like the lack of adequate housing and the eviction problem admit of only partial solution. Closely allied to these is the question of proper child placement, a most difficult task for the best qualified worker in these days when crowded homes make foster home finding almost an impossibility.

The subject matter covered by the Public Welfare field is as inexhaustible as any subject of human relations because we are dealing continually with human beings who are in need and at the same time recognizing the fact that the taxpayer who stands the bill is also a human being.

Monday, August 15, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Hello Again, Bill:

This, the Third of a series of broadcasts originating at Newton City Hall over Station WCRB, 1330 on the dial, will relate to the Recreational facilities, for the citizens of Newton.

It has long been the practice of our Recreation Board to justify recreational facilities and services, on the basis that our recreational outlets serve, as an aid in either controlling or preventing social problems, along with such other factors as better housing, parent education, the church and the schools.

They, too, are developed scientifically on the basis of all neighborhood and city-wide needs.

Today, the Recreation Commissioner for the City of Newton, Mr. C. Evan Johnson, is going to acquaint us with the unlimited opportunities and the planned services that have been made available, to meet the anticipated needs of our Garden City neighborhoods.

It is a pleasure, Bill, to present to you Newton's Recreation Commissioner, Ev Johnson.

Next Monday afternoon at 3:45 P. M., Bill, another Executive Officer of the City, namely Willard S. Pratt, Director of Public Works, will discuss the Engineering, Street and Water Departments and the importance of coordination on all matters, in the respective departments.

Bill, I'd like to present to you Bill Pratt, a gentleman of established reputation, with many accomplishments for the betterment of Newton to his credit. Here's Bill to Bill for a "Hello"!

RADIO BROADCAST - AUGUST 15, 1949

RECREATION DEPARTMENT - C. EVAN JOHNSON, COMMISSIONER

Recreation in Newton is one of the most important activities provided for the Citizens of Newton. It had its beginning before the outbreak of World War I and its growth since that time has been developed in the interests of meeting the needs of our growing community.

It is most interesting to observe that as our educational system has grown and expanded to include activities of children and adults beyond the learning program and to include spare time and hobby interests, that either the facilities or activities or both are already part and parcel of our Recreation Program.

I should like to consider four basic essentials which make up our Newton Recreation Program.

- They are:
1. Physical Equipment
 2. Personnel
 3. Activities
 4. Costs

1. Physical Equipment:

There are 37 Recreation areas located in Newton, with an area of 380 acres and a total land value of \$1,800,000.00. Construction costs on these grounds since 1912 have exceeded \$600,000.00. Twelve of these play areas are listed as part of school property, but are subject to Recreation maintenance and installation. Six of these areas are in varying stages of development and cannot yet be considered adequate as play areas.

Last year, 1948, there were 69 improvements, additions, or changes made on these grounds, representing outlays from \$200.00 to several thousand dollars.

A partial listing of facilities seems essential at this point.

- 35 Clay Tennis Courts
- 11 Black Top Tennis Courts
- 18 Baseball Diamonds
- 37 Softball or Junior Baseball areas
- 16 Outdoor Basketball Courts
- 3 Recreation Buildings (Small)
- 2 Bathhouses
- 5 Comfort Stations

This listing would indicate that Newton does have many facilities available for use.

2. Personnel:

What type of person works in Recreation?

There are two classifications to be considered - Maintenance and Administration, and Supervisory.

The first is made up of 22 persons who have shown by their interest and work that they are proud of Newton Recreation.

The Maintenance Staff is made up of a group of men who constantly are on the alert to improve and better the conditions on our Playgrounds. They are constantly on the watch for the safe condition of all equipment and facilities and in addition will show an interest in helping the children to enjoy good, wholesome Recreation.

The Administrative Staff has their office right here in City Hall. Everyone knows what administration means, but few know that they represent all of Newton's Recreation and the fine manner in which they meet and talk with people who have Recreation Problems is the best type of advertising that we can have.

The Supervisory Staff is made up of several classifications.

Four supervisors with a total experience in Recreation work of close to 100 years.

They are: Mrs. Ragna Hovgaard in charge of Neighborhood Centres and supervisor of a Playground District, and in charge of Newton's Halloween.
Mr. John F. Donahue, director of all Recreation League sports, and a supervisor of a Playground District.
Mr. Nicholas P. Tedesco, director of all Boys' Craft activity and supervisor of a Playground District.
Mr. John B. Dacey, summer supervisor of a Playground District.

Playground Leaders who work part time, some of them throughout the year. These people work part time during the school year and full time during vacation periods. Our Playground Leaders, many of whom have grown up on the playgrounds, are usually teachers and college students. We do employ 3 to 4 High School Seniors or Graduates each year. These people are chosen with extreme care and with the thought in mind that they will receive training this first year to qualify them for leadership responsibilities for the years to come. In all cases of this type, the new worker is assigned with our best and most experienced leaders.

This summer we have a staff of 102 Playground Leaders and Assistant Leaders.

3. Activities

The activities on a playground are many and varied. To the uninitiated, the variety of activity may seem to present problems of leadership, but to the playground staff and the children, the activity is based on sound organization and planning.

Each playground plans its own activity and is limited only by the requirements of special projects and activities which may involve other playgrounds.

Attendance is never compulsory and yet our attendance totals are constantly on the increase.

Our activity schedule is divided according to the four seasons and, of course, the heaviest schedule is during the summer season.

I should like to give a listing of some of our activities. We actually list some 50 activities in our program. Here is a partial list with explanation in some instances.

Baseball	-	66 teams	-	6 leagues
Softball	-	8 teams	-	1 league
Basketball	-	28 teams	-	3 leagues
Tennis	-	Instruction and 5 Tournaments		
Badminton				
Archery	-	Newton Archer's		
Swimming	-	2 areas		
Skating	-	3 areas		
Dancing				
Tobogganing				
Paddle Tennis	-	on all Playgrounds - Tournament		
Parties				
Picnics				
Sewing - Girls' Craft				
Metal Craft				
Woodwork - Boys' Craft				
Furniture Repair				
Gardening				
Games of all kinds - for Children and Adults				
Outdoor - Volleyball and Basketball				

4. Costs

A cost analysis involves figures and comparisons as a general rule - but I do want to present a simple basic analysis of costs which should prove to Newton that Recreation is a valuable part of our city program.

These figures represent a survey of 1948 costs and involve only three items.

Total Expenditures	\$ 166,354.14
Per Capita Cost	2.28
Cost per person served	.12.9 cents

The total cost and per capita cost do not answer the questions in the minds of our listeners, but the cost 12.9 cents per person served is the critical figure.

Newton provides recreation for its citizens at a cost of 12.9 cents per single use of its recreation facilities. Meeting recreation needs at such a low cost is indicative of the services rendered by the City of Newton Recreation Department.

Monday, August 22, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Hello, Bill:-

This, the Fourth of a series of Public Relations Programs over Station WCRB, 1330 on the dial, brings to the citizenry of Newton another Executive Officer of the City, namely Willard S. Pratt, Director of Public Works.

Permanent public improvements have always held the interest of our citizenry. Then, too, the City's Engineering, Street and Water Departments are constantly executing planned public improvements - - - carrying out such directions as may be issued by the Director.

It is a distinct privilege to present to you Bill Pratt, Director of Public Works, a gentleman of established reputation with many accomplishments for the betterment of Newton - - to his credit. Mr. Pratt will discuss the importance of coordination on all matters affecting the Engineering, Street and Water Departments of the City of Newton.

Next week, Bill, Newton's City Engineer...Ashley Q. Robinson, will discuss construction work, surveys, levels, designs, estimates and plans pertaining to our streets, drains, sewers, waterworks, bridges and lands of the City. Such other duties as are incident to his office will also be described. Bill, I'm privileged to present to you, at this time....Ashley Q. Robinson, or Robie, as we know him--- Newton's City Engineer.

RADIO BROADCAST - AUGUST 22, 1949

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - WILLARD S. PRATT, DIRECTOR

In order that the general public may have a complete understanding of the operation of the Department of Public Works, it is necessary that they know what function the Public Works Departments perform and what departments are responsible. Those concerned, besides the office of Public Works, are the Engineering, the Street and the Water Departments.

The Engineering Department is responsible for all engineering for all departments throughout the City. The Street Department performs the following functions: Maintenance and repair of streets, bridges, public property, sidewalks and curbing; Street cleaning; Collection of garbage, ashes and papers; Snow and ice removal; Maintenance of surface drainage and sanitary sewers; Traffic signs and their maintenance; Street lighting; Care of trees and grounds; Control of pests; Maintenance of cemeteries; Street, drain and sewer construction; planting of new trees; Construction of new playgrounds and parks, and many other functions of a lesser nature. The Water Department is in charge of the supply and distribution of water throughout the entire city.

I shall not attempt to give in detail, information concerning any one department, but will give a general outline of all their functions. The magnitude of these operations can best be seen from the following statistics:

Total area of city - 18 square miles.
100 acres of parks.
370 acres of playgrounds.
215 miles of accepted streets.
71 miles of unaccepted streets.
255 miles of water mains.
227 miles of sanitary sewers.
162 miles of surface drains.

To give you a better idea of size, the area of Newton and miles of utilities is three times greater than that of the Town of Brookline.

Due to the continued growth of the city, and the demand for more and better service, in 1934 it was decided that for more efficient operation and better coordination between the various Public Works Departments, a Director of Public Works was necessary. Accordingly, on July 5, 1934, the office of Director of Public Works was created. Under Section 88 of the Ordinances the duties of the office are defined and read as follows:

"He shall have under his immediate control and direction such assistants and employees as may from time to time be duly authorized. He shall have under his direction and advisory control the street commissioner, the water commissioner and the city engineer, who shall keep the director fully informed of all matters in their respective departments and carry out such directions as to the operations of their departments as may be issued from time to time by the director."

The Director of Public Works, having complete information of the operation of the three departments, is able to coordinate the proposed projects so that work progresses more rapidly and at less cost.

The selection of streets for reconstruction and surface treatment is determined by the Director through consultation with the Public Works Committee of the Board of Aldermen and, by programming the work, the efficiency and economy of the operation are increased. Once the program is established, the basis for funds, both in the budget and bonds authorized, is determined, and deviation from the program would seriously affect the progress and cost of the work. Petitions received, all factors being equal, are acted upon in the order in which they are submitted, and the final decision as to whether projects will be constructed depends entirely upon the Board of Aldermen making available appropriations to cover the cost.

The order of construction, so that the installation of utilities such as water, sewer, drain, gas, telephone and electric conduits are installed previously to the construction and paving of streets, is a very important phase of the Director's responsibility. The petitions that are submitted for construction of new sewers, drains, covering brooks, and construction of streets are submitted directly to the Public Works office and progress reports are constantly kept up to date so that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen may be fully informed as to the number of requests, action taken, etc.

Long range planning for the construction of future projects and capital expenditures is another function of the Director of Public Works. This enables him to plan the work and to know what funds will be necessary from bonded accounts in order that requests for bond authorizations may be fully explained to the Board of Aldermen and the Mayor. It also gives him a basis on which to determine what funds will be necessary to include in the annual budget.

Public utilities, such as gas, electricity and telephone locations have to be approved by the Engineering Department before granted by the Board of Aldermen, and it is the responsibility of the Director to notify such utilities so that their installation may be completed before the final paving of streets.

Studies of department operations are constantly being conducted by the Public Works Department in order to decrease costs and increase production. The question may arise as to why the department heads cannot perform these studies themselves. It has been the experience over the past years - previous to the installation of the office of Director of Public Works - that due to the continued rapid development of the city, and the ever increasing demand on the department heads, that the details of the departments themselves required so much time that, if the department heads were to perform these various operations, either more administrative or supervisory employees would be necessary in each department, or the direction of the functional operations of the department would suffer.

It is the Director's responsibility to be fully informed on all Board matters for all of the departments, and attend all committee and Board meetings. This relieves the department heads of spending about one night a week attending meetings.

Since all of the information concerning the various departments, plus the information concerning proposed construction, is assembled in this central office, information is available to the public, which relieves the department heads of time consuming telephone and personal contacts.

The Director also studies ordinances governing the Public Works Departments and public works functions and makes such recommendations for revising said ordinances as is deemed necessary in order to improve the services rendered and the efficiency and economy of required operations. One illustration of this can readily be seen in the revision of the betterment street ordinance, and the ordinance governing the construction of Board of Survey streets.

The question frequently arises as to what the taxpayer gets for his money. I would like to explain Public Works annual costs and enumerate what the taxpayer receives for this expenditure. The following figures are for the year 1948:

Total expenditures for the Public Works Departments amounted to \$3,121,500.00
The percapita expenditure for Public Works amounted to \$39.02, divided as follows:

- 19.2 per cent or \$7.50 for capital expenditures.
- 65.1 per cent or \$25.40 for Street Department operation.
- 12.9 per cent or \$5.03 for Water Department operation.
- 2.4 per cent or \$.94 for Engineering Department operation.
- .4 of one per cent or \$.15 for Public Works expenditure.

The following are a few of the services received by the general public for this expenditure:

The construction and reconstruction of streets throughout the entire city. The installation of sanitary sewers, surface drains and new water installations. Existing streets were maintained in order that the taxpayer may have a hard surfaced, good riding street for ingress and egress to his property. Sidewalks and curbing were maintained regardless of what material they were constructed. The street in front of his house was kept clean in order that dust nuisance might be alleviated and the appearance improved. His garbage was collected twice a week and his refuse and ashes were collected once a week - and disposed of. Trees were planted in front of his property and maintained. Gypsy moth and other pests were controlled by spray and other methods. Parks and school areas were maintained for his relaxation. Street signs and traffic signs were renewed and maintained for his safety and information. Sewers were installed and maintained in order that sewage from his house could be properly taken care of and his health protected. Surface drains were installed and maintained in order that water, collecting in the street and on his property, would be carried away. New playgrounds were constructed for his recreation. Off-street parking areas were developed and maintained. In the winter, the streets were cleared of ice and snow for his safety and convenience. Street lighting was supplied. Locations of underground structures and poles are determined by the Engineering Department and street lights are installed on recommendation of the Street Commissioner.

A family of four was furnished with water at an average cost of 75 cents per month. When one considers that there is no utility more essential to the well-being of man, nor one that is used more extensively, it is evident that this is a very small cost as compared with other utilities such as gas, electricity and telephone.

Due to the adequate supply, distribution and location of hydrants throughout the entire city, the insurance rates are considerably less. Fire protection is indirectly the responsibility of the Public Works Department - because of the installation and inspection of hydrants and because maintenance, snow removal, etc. of the public streets enables the Fire Department to have ready access to all locations.

Police protection is also affected by the proper functioning of the Public Works Departments as concerns street lighting and street maintenance - making accessible all properties.

On some of the above services, which are covered by the expenditures quoted above, charges are made in other localities. The average charge for collection of garbage, ashes and rubbish in some cities throughout the country exceeds one dollar per month.

In other words, if it were not for the Public Works Departments, many of the functions performed by other departments would be seriously impaired, such as transportation, public health, recreation, police and fire protection, esthetic appearance, and general convenience to the citizen.

I have attempted to cover the subject of Public Works in a very general manner. Specific and detailed information will be discussed at a later date by the heads of the departments concerned with the responsibility of performing the above functions.

Monday, August 29, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Hello again, Bill:

We have another interesting....in fact I might say, an exciting message, for this, the Fifth, in our series of informational programs over Station WCRB, 1330 on your radio dial.

This afternoon, we are presenting Newton's City Engineer....Ashley Q. Robinson, a gentleman of known ability, with intensive drive for the completion of municipal improvements....all of which help to make our urban environment most pleasing.

Let no one say there is "no big work to do"....when you consider that the multiplicity of the duties of the City Engineer involve the drawing of specifications....for all construction work, the making of surveys, measurements, levels, designs, estimates and plans pertaining to the streets, drains, sewers, waterworks, bridges and lands of the City. Furthermore, he supervises the construction of....to measure, or causes to be measured.... all work done by contract, for the City.

It is a happy privilege, Bill, to present to you and thru you to our radio audience.... Ashley Q. Robinson, Newton's Engineer....better known to all of us, as Robbie.

Next week, on Monday, at the same hour, we will present Newton's Street Commissioner.... Harold F. Young, whose duties involve the care and management of.... The Public Ways, Sidewalks & Bridges, Public Parks, Squares, Playgrounds and Burial Grounds and the lighting and watering thereof. In fact, Harold has just stepped in to say "Hello", Bill. Here's your chance for a quick greeting.

RADIO BROADCAST - AUGUST 29, 1949

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT - ASHLEY Q. ROBINSON, CITY ENGINEER

The City of Newton, known as the Garden City, is mainly a residential community throughout the eleven villages the City is divided into, each requiring municipal services of the most modern kind. From 1915, when I joined the staff of the Engineering Department, the population was about 43,000. It is now estimated at over 80,000.

The Engineering Department is responsible for all the engineering for all the City departments and makes all the plans, studies, etc. required by the Mayor or the Board of Aldermen for any municipal purposes.

Some of the engineering services for the City Departments are listed as follows:

City Clerk's Department

1. Petitions for street acceptances, sewers and drains submitted to Engineering Department.
2. Names of property owners to be notified for hearings on petitions for streets and sewers, also zoning changes, land takings of any kind such as school sites, parking areas, etc.
NOTE: These names are taken from the records at Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.
3. Record descriptions of all acceptance streets, sewers takings of streets or private land easements, school lands, building lines and playgrounds.
4. Record plans of all street acceptances, sewer takings which are sent to the Middlesex Registry of Deeds to be recorded.
5. Zoning plans of all changes of zone together with variances or any other plans required such as Ward and Precinct line changes.

Assessors Department

Making yearly sub-divisions on plans of the seven wards of the City numbering now nearly 900. These lot developments are taken from copies sent the Engineering Department from the Middlesex Registry of Deeds, also the Land Court.

The master plans or tracings made by the Engineering Department of the Assessors Block System are kept in the office of the City Engineer.

Law Department

Photographs and plans for law suits of any kind.
Descriptions of city owned lands for record deeds.

Police Department

Surveys, plans and photographs of all fatal accidents for court.
Traffic studies and plans for control of lights and parking.

Water Department

Studies, designs, estimates, construction plans on water supply and the water distribution system.

Yearly extensions of water mains are staked out and record measurements kept in notebooks in the Engineering Department.

Gate records kept up to date yearly.

All water services measurements to new houses and buildings kept in record notebooks.

Water distribution plans showing all the mains, gates and hydrants over the entire City kept up to date.

NOTE: Copies of these water distribution plans are furnished the Fire Department and placed in all the fire stations of the City.

Recreation Department

Construction grading plans of new playgrounds showing layout of baseball, football fields, tennis courts, etc., with contracts and specifications of same.

QUESTION - What outstanding construction work done by City as regards athletic grounds?

ANSWER - Claflin Field is one of the finest high school athletic layouts with baseball diamond and backstop, 2 baseball practice fields, 3 football practice fields, 2 volley ball courts, 3 girls' softball fields, 3 girls' soccer and hockey fields, archery range, 5 clay tennis courts, 4 cork asphalt tennis courts (to be used also for ice hockey) 1 hockey rink - board sections, 1/4 mile cinder track with 220 yard straightway, football field, stadium, wooden stands and temporary bleachers.

Building Department

Contour plans showing all public utilities in adjacent street, and contours of play areas in connection with the school lot with original contours for architect to plan new school, library, etc.

Highway Department

Plans and profiles for construction of streets, drains, culverts, sewers, parking areas, bridges, etc., together with estimates for appropriations by the Board of Aldermen, and contracts, specifications, and supervision during the construction of all public works.

1. Betterment streets have 2 1/4 inch Bituminous concrete surface roadway with proper drainage, gravel sidewalks, loam borders, cement concrete curbing entire length of street, street signs, stone bounds, etc.
2. Public streets requiring reconstruction are built of air-entrained concrete 6 or 8 inch deep, 2 1/4 inch or 5-inch Bituminous concrete thickness with proper drainage, 12-inch gravel foundation and whatever curbing are necessary at roundings and inter-sections to make a modern highway according to traffic requirements of each particular street.

QUESTION - What is this air-entrained concrete used in highway construction?

ANSWER - Air-entrained concrete is concrete into which Darex A.E.A. is introduced so as to seal up the pockets left by the action of regular concrete from finishing the surface. On tests of some work built of air-entrained and normal portland cements, it has been found scaling of the surface has not occurred on sections built of the air-entrained after the use of salts for four winters.

Darex A.E.A. is called scientifically "an air entraining agent" - a liquid which when added to the concrete mix incorporates minute, useful air bubbles that produce more workable and more durable concretes.

It's like this - you've seen your wife whip up an egg white or cream when she is making something good to eat. The air gets into the mix and puffs it up. The egg white is an air entraining agent. So far, so good. What the egg white does for cakes, Darex A.E.A. does for concrete.

Another product, Atlas Duroplastic, provides the precise amount of air-entraining agent inter-ground with the cement for satisfactory field performance.

The entrained air cells created in the concrete effectively minimize segregation and bleeding and is well fortified against the weakening effects of freezing thawing weather and against the biting, scaling action of salts.

They both comply with A.S.T.M. American Society Testing Materials and Federal Specifications.

Bituminous concrete is an asphaltic mixture of asphalt with coarse aggregate (stone) graded, fine or sand, and mineral filler and produces what is generally called "black top job".

In both the cement concrete and bituminous work the mix is continually tested at the plants and after it is laid field samples are taken to make sure that the proper compaction has been obtained.

The construction of all public works require much detail study by the Engineering Department as regards street lines and calculations of same, levels for determining grades of center lines, gutter lines, large intersections of streets, curbing, setting grade stakes and spikes and furnishing grade sheets for the Inspectors.

Sewer construction requires a design as to size required by the number of people served in the district in question with surveys for locations of easements necessary for outlets and over the streets in which the streets are sewerred. Levels are taken for profiles and construction plans are made with estimates, contracts and specifications for the finished job. On all construction work the contracts are built under the resident supervision of an Inspector from the Engineering Department.

Sewer assessments are levied on the abutter at the rate of thirty cents a foot frontage and three cents per square foot on the area of each lot to a depth of 125 feet if the land can be served by the sewer at a 2 per cent rate from the invert grade of the sewer. About 50 per cent of sewer is taken care of by the City.

Belorment assessments are levied at the rate of five dollars per linear foot and if the cost of construction is in excess of this amount, the cost is taken care of by the City. The abutter pays for one-half the cost of street.

Engineering Department Office

The office engineers answer all kinds of questions from the public daily on lot dimensions, zoning requirements for subdivisions, sewer and betterment assessments, record data on street lines, etc., assign record street numbers for new buildings, data on public works pertaining to public utilities such as gas, electric, telephone, etc., and other services too numerous to mention.

On file in the department are approximately 40,000 plans covering public works plans and the records of streets, sewers, waterworks, land plans, etc.

There are also on file 1700 notebooks covering surveys of all kinds, levels, grades, water and sewer records, etc., together with 37 index books, 200 calculations books, 1500 profiles and 25 district plans at 40 feet to an inch covering the entire City. The department owns four station wagons, four sedans, one coupe, also large blueprint equipment.

Multilith and Photostat Work

Most of the printing required by the various City departments covering reports of all kinds, special work, contracts, specifications, studies, dockets for the Board of Aldermen and Committees,

Photostat work is also done when required for many departments.

QUESTION - What outstanding work did the Engineering Department have charge of the past year?

ANSWER - The outstanding work done by the Engineering Department during the past year was the construction of the Veterans' Housing Project, completing the design of the site by Willard S. Pratt, our present Director of Public Works, and consisted of the following features:

1. Making contract plans (76 sheets) and specifications.
2. Grading the entire site of 128 acres.
3. Building an outfall sewer of approximately a mile and a half in length.
4. Building four and one half miles of streets and footways with proper sewers, drains, curbs, loam borders, setting out trees, installing water, sewer and gas services to the 412 houses built on the project.
5. To obtain some idea of the size of the project, the above work cost approximately one million and a half dollars.

During 1948 the department was responsible for carrying out some thirty contracts of various kinds on the public works of the City amounting to \$600,000.00.

Last year, 1948, the Engineering Department had a maximum number of fifty engineers composed of rodmen, transitmen, chiefs of party, inspectors, draftsmen, construction engineers, designing and office engineers, title clerk, principal clerk, assistant clerk and two multilith operators. Due to the Veterans' Housing Project and an extensive highway construction program, the regular engineering staff was enlarged considerably.

QUESTION - What other duties does the City Engineer perform?

ANSWER - The City Engineer is also a member ex-officio of the Newton Planning Board and acts as Clerk and also as a technical adviser on engineering matters.

The Planning Board acting as a Board of Survey passes upon the opening of private ways for public use, approving, modifying and approving, or disapproving the layout of such ways as to location, alignment, grade and drainage.

In 1947 the City of Newton passed an ordinance, No. 173, stating all streets or ways hereafter constructed on private land by owners thereof shall be constructed only under the supervision of the City Engineer and shall not be constructed until a bond of a corporate surety authorized to do business under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been furnished the City of Newton.

QUESTION - What are some of the interesting statistics of the City?

ANSWER - Founded 1630; incorporated a town 1688; a city 1873.

Population, estimated over 80,000.

Railroad stations, 12; school houses, 30; churches, 45; houses, 17,127; villages, 11; post offices, 10; city infirmaries, 1; city garages, 1; fire stations 10; police stations, 1; court houses, 1; state armories, 1; water works pumping stations, 2; highway stables, 3; playgrounds, 33.

Libraries: 1 main library
 1 boys' and girls' library (in separate building)
 10 branch libraries
 6 in City owned buildings
 3 in City school buildings
 1 in rented quarters

September 5, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Good Afternoon, Bill:

It is an American habit for people to boost the city in which they live. However, we often wonder if people ever stop to consider what makes a city a good place, in which to live. Better still one might ask what makes Newton a better place than other cities? The city where people spend their money on homes, providing schools for education, where the people are kind and neighborly and have an interest in the welfare of others is a better city. Newton has become all of that.

For this program, the ~~Sixth~~ in this Informational Series being broadcast over Radio Station WCRB we are pleased to present as our speaker -- Newton's Street Commissioner, Harold F. Young who has been building good-will, a most valuable asset, for many years, thereby taking a most active part in this City's advancement, because of his personal efforts and achievements.

Mr. Young's duties involve having charge of construction, alteration, repair, maintenance, the care and management of -- The Public Ways, Sidewalks and Bridges, Public Parks, Squares, Playgrounds and Burial Grounds and the lighting and watering thereof, and the public sewers and drains. Such outstanding services as rendered by his division are designed to make our City -- a better and more progressive City.

Bill, it is a distinct privilege to present to you this afternoon, Harold F. Young, Newton's Street Commissioner, who is well equipped to give us pertinent information pertaining to our Garden City.

We will have another Informational Program on the air next Monday at 3:45. We had previously scheduled Newton's Water Commissioner, Joseph J. Murray, but we learned today that he will have to be out of the City on that day. However, he is with us today, and in the near future he will tell us about his duties which involve the construction, alteration, repair, maintenance, care and management of the Water Works.

Bill, I present Joe Murray.

RADIO BROADCAST - SEPTEMBER 5, 1949

STREET DEPARTMENT - HAROLD F. YOUNG, COMMISSIONER

The services which the Street Department perform are of such a varied nature that no more than a brief summary can be given in today's broadcast.

A review of the many functions of the Department as outlined in the talk given by the Director of Public Works would first seem to be in order. They consist of:

- Maintenance, repair and construction of streets
- Maintenance and repair of bridges
- Maintenance of property, (i.e. fences, steps, tunnels, city yards and various pieces of equipment)
- Maintenance of sidewalks and curbing
- Street Cleaning
- Collection of Garbage
- Collection of Ashes and Papers
- Snow and Ice Removal
- Maintenance and construction of Surface Drainage
- Maintenance and construction of Sanitary Sewers
- Construction and maintenance of Traffic Signals and Signs
- Street Lighting
- Care of Trees
- Care of Grounds
- Control of gypsy-moth and other pests
- Maintenance of cemeteries
- Planting of trees
- Construction of new parks and playgrounds
- Maintenance and repair of city cars, trucks and other equipment

and many other functions of a lesser nature.

How is your Department organized to handle all these functions?

To carry on this work in an area of 18 square miles the Department is organized as follows:

The main office is located at City Hall where all detailed clerical work and financial operations of the Department are handled. In addition to the Street Commissioner, seven clerks are located at this office.

At Crafts Street, Newtonville, is located our Division A headquarters. This Division provides maintenance services in Newton, Nonantum, Newtonville and that portion of Newton Centre and Chestnut Hill north of Commonwealth Avenue. In addition to maintenance of some 90 miles of streets, experienced crews in road construction operate from this Division. The personnel includes a Division Foreman, two Foremen-Inspectors, 1 clerk and 98 Working Foremen, Laborers, Mechanics and other types of skilled workmen.

Division B located on Auburndale Avenue in West Newton provides maintenance services in West Newton, Auburndale, Newton Lower Falls and that portion of Waban West of Chestnut Street. This Division in addition to maintenance in a District of over 90 miles of streets, handles the collection of Ashes and Papers throughout the City and operation of the Incinerator in Newton Highlands. The personnel of this Division includes, a Division Foreman, 1 Foreman-Inspector, 1 clerk, and 120 Working Foreman, Laborers, Mechanics and other skilled workmen.

Division C is located at Elliot Street in Newton Highlands and includes that portion of Waban East of Chestnut Street, Newton Highlands, Newton Upper Falls, Oak Hill, Thompsonville and that portion of Newton Centre and Chestnut Hill South of Commonwealth Avenue. The personnel of the Division includes 1 Division Foreman, 1 Foreman-Inspector, 1 clerk and 43 other workmen of various types. Only maintenance work in this Division is handled by the employees, except during the summer months when a small unit is employed on surface treatment of streets throughout the City. The Division has over 100 miles of streets.

The Sewer Division is located also at the Elliot Street yard and cares for the maintenance of 227 miles of sewers and 162 miles of surface drains, as well as the construction of new drains and sewers and the connecting of new homes to the sewerage system. The personnel of the Sewer Division includes 1 Supt. of Sewers, 3 Foremen-Inspectors and 62 workmen of various skills.

The Forestry Division is located at the Auburndale Avenue Yard and its personnel includes the Forestry Supt. and 49 workmen. This Division is responsible for the care and maintenance of 100 acres of parks, as well as all grounds around City Hall and all schools, fire stations, police headquarters and our libraries. In addition, the maintenance of over 25,000 trees upon the public ways, the maintenance of three cemeteries, control of gypsy-moth and other pests, and the construction of parks and playgrounds.

The Division of Equipment located at Crafts Street, Newtonville is headed by a Supt. and 22 mechanics and other personnel. This Division services and repairs the following equipment owned by the Department:

- 9 Passenger Cars
- 84 Trucks
- 103 Pieces of Equipment including:
 - Gas shovels
 - Graders
 - Cranes
 - Compressors
 - Bulldozers
 - Asphalt Spreaders
 - Loaders-Snow and Material
 - Sno-Go units
 - Traffic Painting Units
 - Street Sweepers
 - Power Sprayers
 - Sidewalk Plow Units
 - Power Mowers
 - Gas Rollers
 - Pumps
 - Sanding Units
 - Power Saws
 - Sewer Flushing Machines
 - Eductors for Catch-basin cleaning
 - Snow Plows

and other miscellaneous items.

In addition, servicing and repairs are made to many units owned by other Departments.

I understand you have had an extensive street improvement program the past 2 years?

At the close of the War our citizens were particularly concerned with the poor condition of our streets. The conditions were due to lack of maintenance programs during the depression years plus inability to secure asphalt during the War years. A survey of the situation was made and a listing of streets made with concentration first on putting in shape our main thoroughfares. This year with the completion of Crafts Street, (Route 128) from Walnut Street to Waltham Street and Chestnut Street from Fuller Street to Moffat Road, will see practically all main roads in good condition for public travel. In 1948 about 20 miles of surface treatment of highways was accomplished and to date in 1949 over 25 miles has been completed. In addition a crew is engaged at the present time in resurfacing a group of streets and under contract complete reconstruction of some roads will be accomplished. It is believed that about 35 miles of streets will have been improved before work ceases this fall. With the completion of this work many streets which have been a problem in the past will be improved to the extent that expensive patching costs will be eliminated for a period of years, and riding qualities of same definitely improved.

During the past two years the City has acquired much in the way of trucks and equipment. Most of these items were at a premium during the War years. The selection of this equipment has been based on its utility use as well as its ability to be of assistance during the Winter months on snow removal.

Can you tell some phases of your snow removal plans?

It might be of interest to your listeners to know briefly our plans for snow removal. The 300 miles of streets in the City are divided into 48 different routes, with each Division taking care of snow removal within its Division lines. When a storm begins three trucks from each Division, equipped with special apparatus, are dispatched to spread salt on certain key streets where the grades are steep and where in the past traffic tie-ups have occurred. Experience has shown that such applications of salt cause the snow to become mealy or slushy and packing is precluded, so that when plowing starts (when about 3 inches of snow has fallen) plows are able to easily remove this slushy accumulation. The residual salt tends to keep further accumulations of snow soft, and after the snow ceases the pavement is practically dry. Newton is adding to its salt a chemical which will reduce to a minimum any possibility of damage to cars by reason of the use of salt. This year the City has purchased 20 new truck units which are being equipped with plow equipment, making a total of 62 City trucks available for plowing. Normally, snow storms will be handled with City-owned equipment, but should severe storms occur requiring additional assistance contracts will be made with private concerns to assist in the work.

One factor in regard to snow removal which is one of the most expensive of our operations, is the removal of snow from our business districts, schools and churches. Snow is actually removed from over 25 miles of gutter line which is equal to that removed from the down-town section of Boston. This is done by the six snow loaders owned by the City and such trucks as are necessary. The operation is usually carried on at night when the business sections are free of cars and time and one-half wages have to be paid. The street mileage in Newton is about equal to the combined mileage in Brookline, Somerville and Cambridge so you can readily see that we have a real snow removal problem.

The Street Department is functioning with over 100 men less than were employed in the year 1930, and at the same time doing more street improvement work than at any time in its history as well as maintaining other services, the volume of which have increased tremendously during this period. This is possible only through the acquisition of many new pieces of modern labor saving equipment.

I do want to call the particular attention of our citizens to one change in policy. When your Collection of Ashes and Papers is due on a holiday, no collection will be made in that District until the regular collection day of the following week.

This is only a brief outline of some of the activities of the Street Department. We would welcome an opportunity to appear again and bring with us some of our key personnel most of whom have served the City faithfully for many years.

CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
MR. ARCHIE R. WHITMAN
TREASURER AND COLLECTOR
OF THE CITY OF NEWTON

September 12, 1949

Good Afternoon Bill:-

For this, the seventh in this series of informational programs pertaining to the operations of our City Government here at Newton City Hall, this afternoon, we are presenting Newton's City Treasurer and Collector, Mr. Archie R. Whitman--- whose official standing in the City Government, is widely known and whose devotion to and understanding of, this City's finances, is highly respected.

The functions of his office are manifold, some of which include, the custody of the funds of the City and also of all moneys, property and securities which may be in his charge by virtue of any statute, ordinance, or by virtue of any gift, devise, bequest or deposit.

Mr. Whitman negotiates all loans, authorized by the Board of Aldermen, and signs all bonds, notes and certificates of indebtedness, for such loans. Yes, there are numerous other duties, incident to his office, and of considerable interest, to all citizens. We rejoice today that we have Mr. Whitman with us, in person for the express purpose of bringing to the citizenry of Newton, a comprehensive picture of the various activities under his jurisdiction. Bill, I am privileged to present to you, and thru you to our WCRB radio audience Newton's City Treasurer and Collector---Archie R. Whitman.

Next Monday afternoon, over WCRB, at the same hour, we will present Newton's Police Chief, Philip Purcell.



WCRB RADIO BROADCAST
MR. ARCHIE R. WHITMAN
TREASURER AND COLLECTOR
OF THE CITY OF NEWTON

September 12, 1949

Good afternoon everyone:

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to speak to my fellow citizens over the radio.

As you can imagine from the introduction the office of City Treasurer and Collector of Taxes is a dual position, and at the same time is very closely associated one with the other. To put it very simply, the Collector of Taxes receives the money and the City Treasurer is the custodian of the moneys collected and makes all payments.

It is a very important and busy office employing fourteen persons. The office handles hundreds of telephone calls and pieces of mail daily as well as caring for those persons who prefer to pay their bills over our counter in cash. About fifteen millions of dollars are handled annually through this office.

Let us begin with the duties of the Collector of Taxes.

BILL SHERMAN: Why are you called the Collector of Taxes? Don't you collect items other than taxes?

MR. WHITMAN: Yes. I am more formally known as the City Collector. We collect all of the various tax bills, such as real estate, personal property, poll and motor vehicle excise taxes, as well as water bills and all other forms of departmental bills which are sent out. In other words, all moneys of every description and form pass through this office; even the moneys paid for various permits, licenses and fees to the City Clerk, Building Commissioner, Recreation Commissioner, etc. all clear through this office monthly.

The City Collector must furnish bond to the City for the faithful performance of his duties, and all clerical help handling currency must sign surety bonds.

At the close of each day the payments received from the various sources are carefully balanced against the stubs or coupons of the bills paid, just as a bank would prove up the day's business. The coupons are then recorded by bookkeeping machines on large receipt sheets for each class of bills, showing the number of the bill paid and amount. These sheets are then posted to the various individual accounts. Great care is used in all of these operations with proofs after each step which reduce the chance of error to a minimum.

I would now like to make a few comments regarding the various types of bills:

The real estate bill is due and payable July 1st, but no penalty of interest accrues until after November 1st. If the bill is paid after November 1st interest accrues from October 1st at the rate of 4%, plus a Demand charge of 35¢. These taxes may still be paid in installments providing no payment is less than ten dollars.

The personal property tax bills, some of which are now in the mails, are handled in the same manner as the real estate bills and the penalties for late payment are the same. I might add that applications for abatement on these two types of taxes must be made to the Board of Assessors before October 1st.

BILL SHERMAN: If the personal property taxes are just now being mailed, does the tax payer have only until October 1st to file his application for abatement?

MR. WHITMEN: I am glad you asked that question. The law requires that if either of these bills are mailed after September 1st we must allow thirty days for filing applications. In other words if a bill is mailed September 12th the tax payer would have until October 12th to file an application.

Now as to poll taxes. They are sent to every male inhabitant of Newton between the age of twenty and seventy who resided in Newton on January first. It makes no difference if he has moved away to some other city or town since, the tax is due and payable to the City of Newton. Persons in the military service are no longer exempt from this tax. Remember, January first is the taxing day and this date applies to real estate, personal property and poll taxes. The poll tax may be sent out any time after March 1st, and must be paid within thirty days from the date of the bill to avoid the penalties of a Demand Charge of 35¢ and interest at four per cent. If the bill remains unpaid for fourteen days after the Demand charge is sent out it is turned over to a constable for collection.

The motor vehicle excise tax is the most bothersome of all the taxes. Please remember that every time a car is registered you will receive an excise bill. If the same car is registered twelve times a year you will receive twelve bills. The only basis for an abatement of this tax is the sale or transfer of your car. If you sell your old car during the year and buy a new one, an abatement is in order on the first car upon application to the Board of Assessors. If bills are received for the tax on each car at the same time it is much safer, in order to avoid delinquency penalties, to pay both bills, and a refund will be made for the abatement. These bills may be issued any time during the year and must be paid within thirty days of the date issued to avoid a Demand charge of 35¢ and interest. After forty five days these bills are turned over to a constable for collection. No excise bill can be for an amount less than two dollars, which is the minimum.

BILL SHERMAN: Supposing I left the State of Massachusetts after registering a car would I still have to pay the excise tax?

MR. WHITMAN: You would. As I said before only the sale or transfer of the car to another person is the basis for an abatement. By reciprocal agreement, however, some states will permit you to drive on Massachusetts plates for a six month period.

All of the preceding bills are committed on a Warrant to the Collector by the Board of Assessors.

Now as to water bills. Bills for metered water are committed to the Collector every six months by the Water Department. The bills are prepared in the Water Department from readings of the meter men, and turned over to the Collector for his action. The minimum charge for a water bill is nine dollars a year, or four dollars and fifty cents each six months. The bills become delinquent thirty days after the date of the bill, and carry a Demand charge of twenty cents after that period. Any time after sixty days the unpaid bills may have liens recorded against them in the Registry and become a lien against the property. Later if the bills are not paid as a lien they are added to the real estate tax bill, and become part of same.

The miscellaneous departmental bills are committed by the various departments and are due and payable within the thirty day period. If Demands must be issued they become part of the bill total.

Sewer main and street betterment assessments are turned over to the Collector by the Board of Assessors after the Engineering Department figures the cost of the work. Assessments may be paid in their entirety or may be apportioned over a period of years appearing on the annual real estate tax bill.

BILL SHERMAN: If I wanted my assessment bill for a new sewer main or street betterment apportioned would I have to make application to have this done?

MR. WHITMAN: It is not necessary although a good many citizens do make application. If the assessment bill remains unpaid at the end of the current year it is automatically apportioned on a subsequent real estate bill over a period of ten years, with interest.

Now as to the duties of the City Treasurer. He is the custodian of all the city's funds. Each day the office of the City Collector turns over to the City Treasurer the collections of that day. The Treasurer deposits these funds in various bank accounts. All payments from these funds are made on warrants which are approved by the Comptroller of Accounts and countersigned by His Honor, the Mayor. The warrants cover the payment for all goods and services rendered to the City as well as the payroll for all City employees.

The City Treasurer must keep accurate records of all tax title liens taken by the City for non-payment of real estate taxes and is custodian of all properties taken through foreclosure proceedings. Parcels are advertised in June for non-payment of taxes. The property owner then has two years in which to redeem the lien. If he fails to do so foreclosing proceedings are instigated and the properties ultimately become the property of the City of Newton. These parcels are then offered for sale. If a person is interested in purchasing a parcel of city-owned property he should submit a bid in writing to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

The City Treasurer must keep a detailed record of the City Debt, showing the amounts due for principal and interest payments month by month and year by year. Newton, unlike many communities, sells its own bonds and tax notes. When the Board of Aldermen authorizes a bond issue such as sewer, street, public buildings, water, etc. the City Treasurer prepares a circular letter which sets forth all the facts pertaining to the issue, as well as other pertinent information regarding the City's financial condition, and sends a copy to most of the bankers and brokers in the eastern section of the country, asking for bids on the issue. At the same time a legal opinion is obtained from a recognized law firm. The bids are opened on a specified date at a specified time and the issue is awarded to the bank or broker making the bid most favorable to the City. The bonds are then prepared and turned over to the successful bidder, taking his check in payment for same.

BILL SHERMAN: Why do we have bond issues? Why do we not build these projects from tax revenue?

MR. WHITMAN: This is a large question. But, simply stated, the answer would be that some of our undertakings are so costly and stupendous that to take the cost out of tax revenue would mean that our tax rate would fluctuate severely.

We have had several large bond issues the last two years, namely the Veterans Housing Development at Oak Hill of \$1,400,000.00 and a Public Building Loan of \$1,500,000.00, mostly for school buildings; and Sewer and Street loans totaling \$1,000,000.00. We sought and obtained authorization of the State Legislature in 1948 for the issuing of \$4,000,000.00 in bonds for Public Buildings, and \$1,000,000.00 for Sewer construction in the next five year period, outside our legal debt limit. The city debt, within the debt limit, is measured by taking $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the average valuation of real estate, personal property and motor vehicles for the past three years, less abatements. This amount, which at present totals about \$700,000.00, is so small that it takes care of only our street construction; hence the borrowing outside the debt limit which I mentioned. All of this borrowing is the result of the war years during which period no capital improvements could be made and we are now attempting to catch up with our long range planning. At no time during this borrowing program do we expect our city debt to rise above ten million dollars, which is very conservative for a city our size. Our city could stand a debt nearly twice this amount. The financial condition of our city is excellent and we still enjoy a triple A rating, which is the best possible.

The City Treasurer is also custodian and treasurer of a number of large trust funds with which most of you are familiar, such as the Newton Retirement System, Horace Cousens Industrial Fund, John C. Chaffin Educational Fund, Municipal Buildings Insurance Fund, Read Fund, and others.

In closing may I again remind you all when paying bills to make your checks payable to the City of Newton, sending them to the City Collector, City Hall, Newton Centre, and please enclose the Notice of the bill sent you to help us identify your payments. We are now working on a system of sending out duplicate notices, one of which will be for your file, thus avoiding the necessity of returning receipts for payments.

Thank you all for your kindness in listening to me.

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Harold T. Pilsbury, Director

October 3, 1949

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How the streets, lanes, principle inhabited places and other parts of the City are patrolled, as the Chief of Police shall direct; How to prevent danger of fire; How to see that order is maintained; How all disturbances and disorders are prevented and suppressed are just a few of the duties of patrolmen, that our Chief directs.

A few other matters affecting the health and safety of the public, hours of work shifts, methods used in general police protection, departmental expenditures and other related services form the "yard stick" for persons interested in measuring the steady advance toward professionalization of our police services."

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RADIO BROADCAST - OCTOBER 3, 1949

POLICE DEPARTMENT - PHILIP PURCELL, CHIEF

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CHIEF PURCELL: The Police Department is responsible for the protection of life and property, the preservation of the peace, the enforcement of the laws, and the prevention of crime. Now that sounds like quite an order, but, briefly, the part entrusted to us by the citizens boils down to two words, "self preservation."

For many centuries, ever since folks lived together in groups, they have found it necessary to make provision for the common defense. Human nature being what it is, it has always been found necessary to make rules designed to promote successful community life; i.e., to enable each one to live in peace, and, as far as possible, to enjoy equal rights with his neighbors. The present day community's provision for this common defense is its police department, and the rules just mentioned are well known to all of us as laws.

BILL SHERMAN: How are these duties carried out?

CHIEF PURCELL: The uniformed force, which comprises over 90% of the department, is divided into three teams, called platoons. Platoon 1 covers the City during the daytime, and Platoons 2 and 3 during the night, with a shift at 1:00 a.m., in this way giving continual protection around the clock. The officers are constantly on patrol, both on foot and in radio cruising cars during their tours of duty, supervised and assisted by sergeants, with a lieutenant in charge at Headquarters. While on patrol, all patrolmen and sergeants, report to Headquarters periodically from some sixty-five signal boxes located throughout the City. These boxes are equipped with recall lights to notify foot men to call the station in an emergency. Of course, the radio gives constant contact between all cars and Headquarters.

In addition, certain officers are assigned to special duties, such as the detective bureau and the traffic bureau. The Detective Bureau, or plain clothes unit, has what we might call a "roving" commission, and perform various duties which would be impractical for the uniformed men, due to the fact that they are confined to certain sections, called routes, and are conspicuous by their uniform. These duties are, principally, criminal investigations or "follow-ups" on crimes which have been committed, investigations for other City departments or boards, as well as fingerprint and identification work.

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BILL SHERMAN: Well, Chief, is the greater part of an officer's time taken up in watching for offenders, regulating traffic, trying doors, and making arrests?

CHIEF PURCELL: No, Bill, in the course of an officer's tour of duty there are many things 'classed as "miscellaneous." For example, our 1948 figures indicate these items as miscellaneous: Duty calls - 230,849; ambulance calls - 807; bicycles recovered - 112; buildings secured - 1,051; cases investigated - 2,600; dangerous trees reported - 34; defective catch basins reported - 16; defective hydrants reported - 12; defective streets and sidewalks reported - 667; defective wires and poles reported - 64; traffic lights out of order - 162; dogs found - 391; dogs ordered restrained - 284; police officers present at fires - 1,026; lost children restored - 35; summonses served for other cities - 2,466; warrants served for other cities - 42; street obstructions removed - 248; water leaks - 32; and gas leaks - 13.

BILL SHERMAN: By the way, Chief, you mentioned that a number of summonses and warrants were served for other cities. Will you explain that, and also, just what is a summons and a warrant?

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For example, a person is found committing a motor vehicle or some other violation in some other city. That officer takes his name and address and license number, etc., then complains to the court about it. The court issues a "summons" and it is sent to us. Any officer is obliged to serve a summons from any court in Massachusetts in his City. The summons is in duplicate. The officer may leave a true copy at the last and usual residence of the defendant, or he may hand it to him. The officer endorses the original, stating the manner in which he has made service, and returns it to the court that issued it. So much for a summons.

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Does that explain how we happened to serve those 2,466 summonses and 42 warrants last year for other cities, Bill? Of course, you understand that it works both ways. They serve many warrants and summonses for us as well.

BILL SHERMAN: What equipment is required to carry out the duties?

CHIEF PURCELL: We have a modern, central police station which is the base of operations. There are 18 automobiles, including 10 cruisers, a patrol wagon, an ambulance, plus other cars for various purposes. There is a signal system with a central switchboard here at the station, to which are attached the 65 signal boxes and recall lights which I mentioned before. The radio broadcasting sets are also here at headquarters. We have a teletype, which is an electrical device with a keyboard like a typewriter, and a continuous roll of paper, on which all messages are recorded. When an alarm message is typed out, it appears on every teletype on the circuit, which includes approximately every police department in eastern Massachusetts. This promotes excellent cooperation between departments. When crimes are committed in one City, all others are on the alert

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Monday, October 10, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Hello, again, Bill:

This is the Ninth, in this series of informational programs pertaining to the operations of our City Government, emanating from the Newton City Hall. This afternoon, we are presenting Newton's Fire Chief, John E. Corcoran.

Chief Corcoran has sole and absolute control and command of all other members of the Department. He is responsible for the discipline, good order and proper conduct of the officers and men, constituting the Department. He also has the superintendence and control of the several fire stations, the apparatus and all other property, appertaining to the Department.

In fact, Chief Corcoran has such a multiplicity of duties as the Fire Department Executive that I would be taking too much of his valuable radio time to acquaint you with more details.

Our Chief has a most timely and comprehensive and interesting message to present to the Newton citizenry today -- Therefore, Bill, let's hear direct from the gentleman whose fine record speaks for itself. I am pleased to present to you Newton's Fire Chief, John E. Corcoran.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour over WCRB, we will present Newton's Water Commissioner, Joseph J. Murray.

Newton Fire Department

W. C. R. B.

October 10, 1949

In order to provide a brief report on Fire Department personnel, together with the functioning of a modern fire department, in the city like Newton, I am pleased to co-operate with Radio Station W. C. R. B. in presenting this broadcast.

The Fire Department personnel of our City is listed as follows:

1 Chief of Department	1 Foreman -- Fire Alarm and Wire Department
4 Assistant Chiefs	1 Electrician
1 Acting Assistant Chief	2 Signal Maintainers
5 Captains	1 Motor Mechanic
33 Lieutenants	2 Office Clerks
170 Firemen	

The total personnel at this date is 218.

Our fire fighting force is distributed in our fire headquarters and ten fire stations located in the original villages, which are now thriving business districts and constitute valuable mercantile holdings in every case. The fire stations at Newton and Newtonville have double companies containing pumping engines and aerial ladder trucks. The Newton Highlands station contains a quadruple unit, namely; a ladder truck, pumping engine and hose wagon, while pumping engines are located in the Nonantum, West Newton, Auburndale, Newton Lower Falls, Newton Upper Falls, Newton Centre and Chestnut Hill stations. Reserve pumping engines are located at Auburndale, West Newton and Newton Highlands stations and a war time trailer pump is stationed at Newton Centre. A reserve city service ladder truck is also located at Newton station.

The officer and fire fighting complement provides for adequate coverage of apparatus under the 48 hour work week plan with a Chief and Assistant Chief responding to all alarms, together with 3 pumping engines and 1 ladder truck, although certain boxes, due to location, receive 4 pumping engines and 2 ladder trucks on first alarm. Additional apparatus and alarms are transmitted via radio or fire alarm telegraph.

The apparatus consists of:

1 Chief's car	1 Lighting plant
1 Assistant Chief's car	1 Wire department service truck
1 Fire department coupe	1 Service truck
1 Electrician's car	1 Motor mechanic's truck
10 Pumping engines	3 Reserve Pumping engines
2 Aerial ladder trucks	1 Reserve ladder truck
1 Quadruple ladder truck and pumping engine	1 Reserve trailer truck

The working schedules of our department are:

Fire Fighting Force	48 hour week
Fire Alarm Operators	42 " "
Wire and Fire Alarm Maintenance	40 " "
Motor Mechanic	40 " "
Office Clerks	40 " "

In our city, which covers an area of 18 square miles, our Fire Headquarters building is located at 1164 Centre Street, Newton Centre. It contains a modern Gamewell System consisting of 20 box circuits which provides our city with 421 fire alarm boxes at this date. It also has Mutual Aid connections with our adjacent cities and towns - Boston, Watertown, Waltham, Wellesley, Needham and Brookline. We have 5 Primary fast time circuits and 5 Secondary or slow time

circuits. 42 of our public and private schools, as well as a few mercantile buildings, have auxiliarized boxes.

Our headquarters is equipped with a modern P. B. X. telephone switch board together with an approved time stamp for recording receipt of alarms or telephone calls. The board has 5 incoming trunk lines with connections to every fire station and every official fire department telephone. It also has connections to Police Headquarters and Newton Pumping Station.

Our Fire Department 2 Way Radio transmitting station located in Fire Headquarters, is used in conjunction with the Newton Police Department station W. P. F. A. and carries all alarms of fire, emergency calls and all official Fire Department business. The broadcast is transmitted, by our Fire Alarm Operators, to all City of Newton cars equipped with 2 way radio including our Police Department cruising cars, Fire Chief's and Assistant Chief's cars, Fire Department coupe, Engines 3-4-5 and Ladder 2 together with our Lighting Plant.

An added feature of the Gamewell System is our ability to transmit messages from Fire Headquarters to each fire station over our Secondary Fire Alarm circuit in the event of failure of the New England telephones.

The Kohler Generating Light Unit at Fire Alarm Headquarters is used in the emergency caused by Edison power failure.

Our fire station tower bells are still in service at Engines 1-8- and 9 and at the Newton Lower Falls Library - formerly Engine 6 station - on Grove Street. Tests are made daily at 11:45 A. M. These bells are also used for sounding second or third alarms of fire, assembling Police, Military Aid or Veterans' Organizations for emergency service.

Our fire Alarm underground cables cover some 42 miles of our streets while our aerial lines cover about 48 miles with an additional $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles due to the large Veterans' Project in the Oak Hill district, completed this year.

The members of our maintenance division of Fire and Wire Department have complete charge of our Police Signal System which consists of one main signal desk with recording tapes from individual box circuits. There are 10 police box circuits, 10 police circuit re-call lights, 67 police boxes as well as a Kohler Generating Light Unit located at Police Headquarters.

Our records for the year 1948 are as follows:

Bell alarms	204	Verbal alarms	90
Telephone calls	978	Radio alarms	23
Mutual Aid calls	64	False alarms	75

Total alarms 1,295

It might be of interest to note that we have traffic control lights at Engine 2 and 4 stations on Washington Street and at Ladder 2 on Boylston Street Newton Highlands.

Fire Department sirens are located at street intersections to warn of approaching fire apparatus at the following points:

Newtonville Square	operated from Engine 4
Washington St. and Centre Ave.	" " " 1
High & Pettee Streets	" " " 7
Sumner & Beacon Streets	" " " 3

QUESTION PERIOD

The principal duty of every fire department is to extinguish fire and safeguard the lives and property of the citizens who depend so much upon this important service.

Our fire department is adequately equipped with all modern appliances used in fire fighting and life saving such as inhalators, resuscitators, modern gas masks and aerial ladders together with street guns, ladder pipes, cellar pipes and Bresnan distributors, foam generating unit, carbon tetrachloride, carbon dioxide fire

extinguishers, fog nozzles and adaptors plus modern lighting plants with special Crouse-Hinds underwater light used in drowning cases.

Second only to fire fighting is the operation of a competent Fire Prevention Division in a department. In our city this important work is carried on by our company officers who make monthly inspections in their sub-districts of all business establishments, garages, schools, factories, hospitals, hotels, apartment houses, theatres and all other places of assembly. Cards are filled out and filed at company quarters noting violations and ordering correction or remedy as soon as possible. Particular attention is given to procuring necessary permits for the storage of fuel oil, gasoline and other inflammable liquids. Inspection of all oil burners, fuel oil storage tanks, gasoline storage tanks are made by Assistant Chiefs while electrical installations are inspected by our electrician.

In a broadcast pertaining to our Fire Department I would be remiss if I did not mention our water supply system. Regarding this important part of our municipal organization I can only state that with an average city pressure of 86 pounds per square inch we are adequately provided for, while in some sections of our city, particularly in the hill districts and on our south side, we have much lower pressures but our water mains are so arranged that we may set pumping engines at working fires to augment existing pressures.

During seasons, such as this past summer, when drought conditions exist everywhere our connection to the Metropolitan Water System, at Ward Street near our reservoir, enables us to obtain water to replenish the heavy drain on our city system and also allow a surplus flow to build up and equalize our normal supply.

One of our chief attainments in the engineering field of our city this year has been the installation of a new 12" feeder main to the Veterans' Project in the Oak Hill district which extends from the Newton Pumping Station in Newton Upper Falls to the existing 12" main laid on Saw Mill Brook Parkway in the Veterans'

Project. This additional supply will greatly improve our water supply for fire protection purposes in the entire Oak Hill district.

From a financial viewpoint may I call your attention to the difference in the fire department appropriation for the years ending 1943 and 1948. In 1943 our appropriation was \$329,263.56 with an expenditure of \$302,187.15 while in 1948 our appropriation was \$568,981.80 with an expenditure of \$547,793.96.

In comparison let me emphasize that our Fire Department budget expenditure for 1948 of \$547,793.96, in a city of approximately 83,000 people, when broken down, really shows an investment of \$6.59 per person per year or 1 8/10 cents per day per person which from a fire protection angle, in service rendered speaks for itself as an insurance policy issued for the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Newton.

The decided upward trend in appropriation and expenditure can be attributed to increases in cost along various lines under care and maintenance of buildings plus the increase in personnel due to the installation of the 48 hour work week in the fire fighting force.

The Fire Department appropriation for 1950 will include further increases which I venture to state will cause an approximate appropriation of \$725,000.00 or more due to the equipping and manning of the new Oak Hill fire station which will include a modern pumping engine to be housed there.

The added fire protection to be afforded our citizens by the erection of a fire station in the section of Newton is recognized as the attainment of an objective which was recommended by two preceding Fire Chiefs and I know this district will be more adequately served in the future than ever before.

In closing may I extend my gratitude to Mr. Harold T. Pilsbury of our Public Relations Department, Messrs. Richardson and Sherman of Radio Station W.C.R.B. for their efforts in making this Fire Department broadcast possible.

I thank you.

NEWS RELEASE
From
MUNICIPAL RESEARCH LIBRARY
Harold T. Pilsbury, Director

October 17, 1949

Monday afternoon at 3:45 P. M. over Radio Station WCRB, 1330 on the dial, the Tenth of a Series of Informational Broadcasts emanating from Newton City Hall took place, bringing to the radio audience Newton's Water Commissioner, Joseph J. Murray.

Harold T. Pilsbury, Director of Research for the City of Newton and Moderator for these Public Relations Programs, said:

"Mr. Murray's duties involve the care and management of the Newton Water Works. Such duties include the maintenance of complete and detailed records and accounts of all work done by the Water Department, showing the kind of work done, location and cost thereof, and the account to which it is charged. Such records include the name of each water taker, the location and description of the building in which the water is used, the character of its use, the kind of service, the quantity supplied, and the amount charged therefor - - - all properly arranged for convenient reference. There are so many realities pertaining to the amount of water to be pumped, consumed and stored which, too, is related to the condition and use of the Water Works, that we now look to our Water Commissioner to acquaint us with some of the many important matters deemed necessary by him for the proper functioning of the Water Works."

Mr. Murray responded as follows: (See attached sheets)

Next Monday at the same hour Bill Sherman, Special Events Director for WCRB, will present John D. Martin, Comptroller of Accounts for the City of Newton.

October 17, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Good afternoon, Bill:

For this, the Tenth in this Series of Informational Programs pertaining to the operations of our City Government, here at Newton City Hall, this afternoon, we are presenting Newton's Water Commissioner, Mr. Joseph J. Murray.

Mr. Murray's duties involve the care and management of the Newton Water Works. Such duties include the maintenance of complete and detailed records and accounts of all work done, by the Water Department, showing the kind of work done, location and cost thereof, and the account to which it is charged. Such records include the name of each water taker, the location and description of the building in which the water is used, the character of its use, the kind of service, the quantity supplied, and the amount charged therefor - - - all properly arranged for convenient reference.

There are so many realities pertaining to the amount of water to be pumped, consumed and stored which, too, is related to the condition and use of the water works that we now look to our Water Commissioner to acquaint us with some of the many important matters deemed necessary by him for the proper functioning of the Water Works.

Bill, I am privileged to present to you Newton's Water Commissioner, Joseph J. Murray.

Next week, at the same hour, Bill, we will present to our radio audience Mr. John D. Martin, Comptroller of Accounts for the City of Newton, who will acquaint us with the multiple duties of his office. John has taken time out to be with us for a quick "Hello" - - Bill, and I'm delighted to present John D. Martin to you, now.

WATER DEPARTMENT - JOSEPH J. MURRAY, WATER COMMISSIONER

The Newton Water Department functions for the purpose of supplying and distributing an adequate quantity of potable water to the citizens of Newton for domestic, industrial and fire purposes and for the installation and maintenance of the mains and services which distribute the water.

Where does Newton obtain its supply?

Newton obtains its water supply from 677½ acres of waterbearing gravel lands in Needham. All the water which is collected at the source of supply, that is, from dug wells and infiltration galleries, is pumped under a pressure sufficient to prevent inleakage of Charles River water under the river to the pumping station. Here it is treated with chlorine to eliminate any chance of pollution and is again treated with soda ash to control its natural corrosive qualities, (since it is ground water and most all ground waters are at least slightly corrosive). After treatment, the water is then pumped directly into the mains which supply water both for fire and domestic purposes.

The Pumping Station on Needham St., which was reconstructed in 1933, houses modern and highly efficient equipment. Steam is generated in one of two 250 horsepower water-tube boilers. The steam thus developed operates one of three steam turbines which, in turn, drive through reduction gears, a generator which develops all the power and light used within the plant and at the source of supply and in addition two centrifugal pumps, in series, which pump the water into the mains. Employed at the pumping station is a superintendent, four watch engineers, four stationary firemen, a coal passer, a chemist, a water machinery repair foreman and two laborers.

The surplus of water pumped beyond the quantity consumed in the City, overflows into a covered reservoir of ten million gallon capacity, located on Waban Hill, in the Chestnut Hill district. This reservoir, in turn, serves to supply the City when the rate of consumption is greater than the rate of pumping.

One of the interesting features about Newton water is that, from the time it is collected at the source of supply until it is drawn at a house tap, it is never exposed to sunlight. Similarly, it is not exposed to contamination.

The distribution system of the Newton Water Works consists of a network of 255 miles of cast-iron mains. In addition, nearly 207 miles of small service pipes are used to conduct the water from the street mains into the properties served.

The average daily consumption of water in Newton is about 7 million, 264 thousand gallons per day or about 94.01 gallons per person per day.

The total consumption for June of this year was the highest in the history of the department, amounting to 291 million, 726 thousand gallons. The daily average for the month was 9 million, 724 thousand gallons.

The total consumption for July was 259 million, 973 thousand gallons or a daily average of 8 million, 386 thousand gallons. The total consumption for August was 263 million, 724 thousand gallons and the daily average was 8 million, 507 thousand gallons, so that, the total consumption for the three months greatly exceeds that of any previous comparable period.

Great care is exercised to assure the delivery into the mains of a water which is at all times safe for domestic consumption. Samples of water are collected twice a week from at least six locations on the Source of supply and frequently from various locations throughout the distribution system.

Bacteriological examination of these samples is made in the Board of Health Laboratory in City Hall. Further samples are collected at less frequent intervals for the State Department of Public Health for similar examination.

Is the City's supply adequate to furnish its entire requirements?

Any peak requirements of water are purchased from the Metropolitan District Commission. In former years, the City could supply its own requirements of water for approximately two and one-half times less than it would cost to purchase the entire requirements from the Metropolitan District Commission, but, of recent years, legislation has been adopted whereby it will be more economical for the City to buy its entire supply from M. D. C. Therefore, during the course of the next few years, when the tunnel which is now under construction has been completed, and the proper connections made, Newton will discontinue furnishing its own supply of water and buy it from M. D. C.

With reference to the maintenance of the distribution system, on Watertown St., at the corner of Edinboro St., Newtonville, the Water Works Supply Yard is located. The main building houses the pipe shop, locker rooms, hydraulic laboratory, (used primarily for testing meters 2-in. or larger), foreman's office, yard office and stock room, containing all small service stock, meter parts, etc. also, a roomy meter repair and test room, laid out to handle 4 thousand to 8 thousand meters per year and permit a five-year meter inspection program. All meter and stock records are maintained in this building.

The garage provides accommodations for 10 vehicles and contains a wash stand and grease pit. All automobile maintenance is conducted by a motor equipment repairman in the employ of the department.

The Supply Yard is the headquarters for foremen, working foremen, pipe-layers, equipment operators and laborers. From here, the men are dispatched to their various destinations such as: repair jobs, new service installations, new main construction, replacing meters, reading meters and cleaning out services. There are two foremen, two male clerks, three meter repairmen, four meter inspectors and forty-seven laborers, pipe-layers, working foremen and chauffeurs, who work out of the supply yard. There is someone on duty twenty-four hours a day, so that whenever an emergency call is received, it is promptly relayed to the proper person so that there is no delay in attending to it.

Does the Department do all construction work with its own forces?

Since the War, the tremendous increase in building and developing has resulted in a corresponding increase in demand for main extensions. During the past year, on account of the heavy demand for this type of work and, due to the fact that our permanent crew of men is comparatively small, (since we do not have any off-season lay-offs and it would be un-economical to maintain a large crew during the winter season), it has been necessary to let out several main extensions on contract. In this way, we have kept abreast of the demand and done it economically due to the eagerness of the contractors for this type of work.

The main office of the Water Department is located at City Hall. There are six clerks and the Commissioner. This office handles all detailed matters and records of Water Department activity as required by the City Ordinance which reads as follows: "The Water Commissioner shall keep full, complete and detailed records of all his doings and correspondence; also similar records and accounts of all work done by the Department, showing the kind of work done, location and cost thereof, and the account to which it is charged. He shall also keep a full record of the name of each water taker, the location and description of the building in which the water is used, the character of its use, the kind of service, the quantity supplied, and the amount charged therefor, all properly arranged for convenient reference. He shall also keep a full record of the amount of water daily pumped, consumed and in store; and, generally, of all facts pertaining to the condition and use of the Works which may be desirable for reference."

The duties as outlined in the Ordinance require specifically, the handling of all applications for new services, petitions for new mains or extensions of existing mains, the explanation of accounts which entails, personal interviews in the office, telephone calls and correspondence. Also, payroll work, ordering and processing of bills for supplies or services rendered to the Department, compilation and distribution of annual reports, enforcement of collection of delinquent bills, entailing correspondence and the filing of Liens at the Registry of Deeds, the clerical work involved in maintaining accurate and up-to-date records on approximately 20,000 accounts.

The office also handles the billing of the water bills for the entire City. The City is divided into three sections for the purpose of billing and each section is billed semi-annually. Beginning in 1950, there will be a change in billing dates as follows: bills formerly rendered in January, February and March will be rendered in March, April and May and bills formerly rendered in July, August and September will be rendered in September, October and November. The Department feels that this change in billing dates will result in better service to the consumer.

Has there been a recent increase in water rates?

No. While the cost of operating the Department has risen steadily during recent years, due to higher cost of materials and increases in salaries for employees, the rate is the same as it has been since 1936, 18¢ per hundred cubic feet.

What procedure is followed when a complaint of a high bill is received?

The Chief Meter Inspector is notified of all high bill complaints. He makes a personal visit to the property of each complainant and re-reads the meter to check the accuracy of the billing reading. He then, with the permission of the occupant, inspects the plumbing throughout the house. In many instances, he has been able to detect un-noticed or hidden leaks, which caused the high consumption and which, unchecked, would continue to cost the consumer a considerable amount for "wasted water". On some accounts, by setting a Meter-Master, the continuous fluctuation on a chart on the Meter-Master, which is attached to the meter, during the hours from midnight to early morning, when there is usually little or no consumption, proves the existence of leakage.

If we are unable to satisfy the consumer as to the amount of the bill, by the above methods, we will, at his request, remove the meter and test it at the supply yard.

Another service which the Department renders is that of determining, within a matter of a few minutes, the static pressure at any given point in the distribution system. The Department receives numerous requests for this type of information.

I have endeavored to bring to you a clearer and better understanding of the functions and services performed by the Newton Water Department.

October 24, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Good afternoon, Bill:

Yes, Bill - - - this is the Eleventh Broadcast, in the Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint our citizens with City Government operations, here at Newton City Hall.

This afternoon we are proud to present Mr. John D. Martin, Newton's Comptroller, a resident of our City for 24 years.

The Comptroller of Accounts is in charge of the City's Accounting Department. He examines all the accounts, bills and payrolls which have been approved and certified, by the several Boards and Officers authorized to make expenditures, and if they are correctly cast and duly approved, or if such indebtedness arises from a written contract, and such account, bill or payroll conforms with the terms of such contract, he shall approve same.

The Comptroller of Accounts may disallow and refuse to pay in whole or in part any claim on the ground that it is fraudulent, unlawful or excessive.

The complexion of liabilities incurred, but not paid, and the matter of assets accrued, but not received, can best be told by our genial Comptroller whom I am happy to present at this time, Bill, in the person of John Martin, Comptroller, for the City of Newton.

Next week, Bill, we will present Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner. I prevailed upon Mr. Campbell to step in this afternoon, Bill, to say "Hello", and I'm pleased to present Arthur to you for a quick preview.



RADIO BROADCAST - OCTOBER 24, 1949

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT - JOHN D. MARTIN, COMPTROLLER

By a special act of the Legislature in March, 1913, the City of Newton established the position of Comptroller of Accounts and thereby adopted a control of financing similar to the larger cities throughout the Country; New York, Chicago, Cleveland, and Detroit, just to mention a few. This change from an Auditor to a Comptroller, together with the several new City Ordinances, changed considerably the duties and responsibilities of the Accounting Department of the City of Newton. To quote in part from the revised Ordinances of current date: "The Accounting Department shall be in charge of the Comptroller of Accounts, who shall keep a complete set of books and accounts which shall comprise all of the financial transactions of the City through the various Departments and offices under their respective appropriations. The books shall be kept in double entry, balance sheet system, showing all classes of assets and all classes of liabilities in controlling accounts. All accounts rendered to or kept in the Departments of the City of Newton shall be subject to the inspection and revision of the Comptroller of Accounts and shall be rendered and kept in such form as he shall prescribe. The Comptroller of Accounts shall carefully examine all the accounts, bills and payrolls which have been approved and certified by the several Boards and Officers authorized to make expenditures and if they are correctly cast and duly approved, or if such indebtedness arises from a written contract and such account, bill or payroll conforms with the terms of such contract, he shall approve the same."

QUESTION: John, I understand that Municipal Accounting is quite different from Commerical Business Accounting. What system do you, as Comptroller of Accounts for the City of Newton, use?

Bill, Municipal Accounts are kept on either a Cash or a Reserve basis. Here at Newton the records are kept on the Reserve basis, which means that you do not reflect as Surplus, uncollected bills; or to say it another way, we give no value to a dollar of taxes until it has been actually collected and deposited with the Treasurer. This is the only sound basis on which a Municipality can operate.

QUESTION: "The Annual Budget" is a term familiar to most people. What happens when the City of Newton's budget has been approved and voted by the Board of Aldermen, are you then in a position to forget Budget figures until the next year?

Bill, the Accounting Department, including myself, wish the answer to your question was yes, but it is an emphatic NO. With the passing of the Budget we really go to work because from that date until the close of the year, the Comptroller not only approves and records each and every penny before the Treasurer can pay the same, but we then must issue monthly expenditure statements and balance sheets.

QUESTION: John, when speaking about the Annual Budget, you mentioned monthly expenditure statements. Of what value are they?

The various members of the Newton City Government are conversant regarding Expenditure Statements, but a majority of taxpayers do not understand them. There is no good reason for this misunderstanding as the meaning of these terms, "Unexpended Balances" and "Unencumbered Balances" is relatively simple. "Unexpended Balances" mean the amount of Dollars on hand to pay bills incurred the rest of the current year. "Unencumbered Balances" as of any date mean the amount of appropriations which is available for purchasing the needs of a Department over the balance of the year.

QUESTION: What is the procedure in order to sell materials or services to the City of Newton?

Bill, before answering your question I would like to digress for a moment with the brief comment that the Ordinances of the City of Newton, some of which were adopted several years ago, were the result of keen thinking and foresight written in simple and clear language, as you will note from my reply to your question by direct quotation: "Before any contract shall be made by any officer or Board where the amount involved is one thousand dollars or more, such officer or Board shall, unless the Mayor gives a written authority to do otherwise, invite proposals therefor by advertisements in not less than two newspapers published in said City of Newton, such advertisements to state the time and place for opening the proposals in answer to said advertisements and reserving in said invitation the right to the officer or Board to reject any or all proposals. Whenever, in response to an advertisement under this section by any officer or Board of the City, a bid for a contract to do work or furnish material is sent or delivered to said officer or Board, a duplicate of the same shall be furnished by the bidder to the Comptroller of Accounts, to be kept by him and not opened until after the original bids are opened. After the original bids are opened, the Comptroller of Accounts shall open and examine the bids submitted to him, and shall compare the same with the original bids. In case any of the bids submitted to the Comptroller of Accounts differ from the corresponding original bids, those submitted to the Comptroller of Accounts shall be treated as the original bids. The contract shall not be awarded until after both sets of bids are opened.

QUESTION: John, are there any items in the Accounting Department appropriations for the year 1949 which should be of special interest to Newton Taxpayers?

Yes, Bill, the three largest items among the Accounting Department appropriations for the current year are the annual pensions payable to former Laborers, Firemen and Policemen, \$70,000.00, \$39,000.00 and \$41,000.00, respectively. The average weekly pension check being paid to these 110 former employees is \$30.00. These pensions are the reward for years of faithful service and are wholly paid from City funds as there were no payroll deductions made while these men were employees.

QUESTION: John, as Comptroller of Accounts for the City of Newton do you have any other duties?

Yes, Bill, the Comptroller of the City of Newton is ex-officio Secretary to the Board of the Newton Retirement System. While I will not attempt to describe the System in detail, I will state some of the pertinent facts, which should be of interest to all taxpayers of the City of Newton. The first Newton Retirement System, like the office of Comptroller, came about by Special Acts of the State Legislature July 1, 1928, and there were added several amendments to the Act in July, 1947. The most significant change was increasing the Employees Wage Deduction from 4% to 5%, with the resulting increase in benefits payable on retirement. The membership at present consists of 865 employees of all Departments of the City, exclusive of the School Teachers - They are members of a State Teachers Retirement System. These 865 members have an equity in the total assets of the System - \$900,000.00, which is invested for the most part in long term U. S. Government Bonds. Forty members have reached the age of retirement and are receiving total annual pensions of \$28,000.00.

Bill, up to this point I have enumerated the duties and accomplishments of the Accounting Department without any mention of my staff of employees. They are 8 in number, and it is only through their efficiency and fine cooperation that the desired results are obtained.

To give you some idea of the volume of detailed work handled by the Accounting Department of the City of Newton I will mention a few of the high lights.



Before a Purchase Order or Contract with any Department including Police, Fire, School and Library can be accepted by a Vendor it must be approved and the appropriation encumbered by the Comptroller. When bills are received they are checked, approved, and a warrant authorizing payment is prepared by the Comptroller and countersigned by Mayor Lockwood before the Treasurer can make payment. To date in 1949 the Accounting Department has prepared 94,000 payroll and bill warrants. Now in as much as a single warrant sometimes is in payment of as many as from six to eight invoices we have audited and approved already this year approximately 200,000 single items.

The outgoing mail of all City Hall departments is sealed and stamped by a metered mailing machine in the Accounting Department. This unit has sent to the Post Office Department more than 250,000 pieces of mail this year to date.

I think we have covered the more important phases of work in the Comptroller's office, and if you have no further questions, I will leave you and return to the Accounting Department.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

October 31, 1949

Good Afternoon, Bill:

This is the Twelfth Broadcast in the series of Information Programs, designed to acquaint our citizens with City Government operations, here at Newton City Hall.

This afternoon we will present Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner, who came with the City of Newton in April, 1925.

A preview will bring to your attention the following:

The Public Buildings Commissioner has charge of the construction, alteration, repair and maintenance of the public buildings, except as otherwise provided for by the Charter of the City. By established reputation and accomplishment Mr. Campbell is an able civil engineer. He attended M. I. T. and graduated from Yale University, and became Commissioner of Public Buildings in 1937.

The many services rendered the citizenry by the Public Buildings Department are too numerous to mention, at this time. However, a few duties pertain to records, reports and inspections, approval and rejection of plans, expiration of permits, buildings to be razed, unusual structures and emergencies, restrictions to construction and alterations.

It is my happy privilege to present to you, Bill, Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner, a gentleman with many accomplishments for the betterment of Newton to his credit, many of which have promoted health, safety, convenience and welfare buildings for Newton citizens.

Bill, here's Arthur Campbell who will discuss the multiple duties of his office.



MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE OPERATION OF THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT

Recently all heads of city departments and boards were asked by the League of Women Voters of Newton to list in not over fifty words the main duties of their offices. My reply was as follows:

"The Public Buildings Commissioner has charge of the construction, alteration, repair and maintenance of public buildings, except buildings and structures of the Water Department, and flagstaffs. He is charged with the duty of executing the provisions of the building code, the zoning ordinance, and the statutes of the commonwealth relating to buildings and the enforcement of regulations relating to plumbing."

Taking up the several duties in the order in which they are mentioned and citing definite examples to make this explanation clearer, the construction of public buildings comes first on the list.

Question

With regard to new schoolhouse construction, who initiates them and what process is followed to assure their successful completion?

Answer

New schoolhouses in Newton do not just happen. When the School Committee decides that a new schoolhouse is required or material alterations are needed, ~~they~~ *it* follows the procedure provided in Section 23 of the Charter. It sends a written communication to the Board of Aldermen stating the locality and the nature of the further provisions for schools which are needed, and no schoolhouse is located, built or materially altered until the school committee is consulted as to the proposed location and plans and had full opportunity to set forth its educational requirements.

The Joint Committee of three members of the Board of Aldermen and the School Committee then considers the matter and if its decision is favorable a request is made to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen for an appropriation for an architect to prepare the necessary plans, specifications, etc.

CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

The long-range plan of school construction begun in 1938 was brought to a standstill by World War II and there was a suspension of several years due to government conservation orders and priorities on material and equipment.

Two years ago construction under a revised long-range plan was resumed in line with present day requirements and we have the following buildings either completed or now under construction.

School Buildings Under Construction

(a) A new elementary school on Grove Street to replace the present Williams School in Auourndale. This building is scheduled for completion on or about the end of February 1950 and the grading in the rear of the building later in the spring as the weather permits.

(b) Addition to the Franklin School on Derby Street, West Newton.

We expect to have it ready for occupancy on or about the end of December this year.

(c) Addition to the Ward School on Dolphin Road, Newton Center. We expect to have it ready for occupancy on or about the end of January 1950.

(d) A new elementary school in the Veterans' Housing Project, Oak Hill Park, Newton Center. Construction was commenced this fall and we expect to have it completed and ready for occupancy by September 1, 1950.

School Buildings for which Plans are Completed

In this category is the proposed new elementary school on Brookline Street to be known as the Spaulding School. Plans and specifications for this building are complete but the construction has been held in abeyance by the Joint Committee of the School Committee and the Board of Aldermen pending further examination of population trends.

School Buildings for which Plans are in Process

(a) The proposed new Peirce school was requested by a vote of the School Committee in October 1945 and preliminary plans were completed and approved by July 1946. At that time the Joint Committee decided that there were other locations in Newton where schools were more urgently needed.

(b) The proposed new Claflin School is to be constructed on or near the old quarry site. The architects have prepared a model of this unusual site with a model of the proposed building and the Joint Committee will study the practicability of using the site for school purposes. This school is scheduled for occupancy in September 1951.

(c) The proposed new Bowen School is to be constructed on the Cypress Street side of the Thompsonville Playground site. The architect has submitted several alternate plans which the School Department is in the process of studying at present. It is our present intention to have the plans and specifications ready for receiving bids next spring, if it is decided to do so.

School Building Completed

Last year the city completed an addition to the Technical High School which was approved by the Civilian Production Administration in 1946 because of the contribution it would make to technical education. It cost \$385,000.00.

Question

Is that the building which overlooks Dickinson Stadium?

Answer

Yes, Bill, at the Newton High School home games, one can look across the football field and see your W C R B flag hanging out of the window. You broadcast most of the games, don't you Bill?

Question

By the way, are there any prospective school projects on which there has been a vote of the School Committee and on which no action has been taken?

The present status of the plan for schoolhouse construction is that the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen have acted favorably on all of the School Committee's requests and the buildings are at the stage described in the above paragraphs.

BUILDINGS OTHER THAN SCHOOLS

(a) The new Oak Hill Fire Station. This building is now under construction. At the present rate of progress it should be ready for occupancy the last of December this year.

(b) The proposed new Hawthorn Playground Building. In August this year the Recreation Commission recommended that the old storage building which we had planned to convert into a playground building be torn down and a newer and more suitable structure erected in its place. We then asked the Recreation Department for a layout to enable us to prepare the new plans in accordance with its wishes. These plans are now being prepared and we hope to have the building ready for use the beginning of the playground season in 1950.

(c) A proposed new Police Garage. A site adjacent to the parking area at the rear of the Police Station in West Newton has been acquired for a new police garage to replace the present antiquated and uneconomical building. The present building has 10 or more doors which chill off the building when cars go in and out in winter, whereas the new building will have at the most 2 doors. Our present intention is to begin the construction of this building in the spring of 1950 and complete it later in the year.

ALTERATION, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Work under this heading is done from a budget appropriation for that purpose, which in 1949 was as follows:

For school buildings	\$120,000
" City Hall & War Memorial	7,000
" all other buildings	<u>45,000</u>
	\$172,000

The buildings for which this department is responsible are as follows:

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Replacement Cost</u>	<u>Depreciated Value</u>
Schools	31	\$ 17,787,235	\$ 13,903,096
Fire Stations	10		
Fire Alarm Headquarters	1	862,793	622,791
Libraries	8	741,436	582,474
Playground Buildings	8	148,144	112,197
Street Department	11	822,755	673,624
Miscellaneous	8	<u>1,928,841</u>	<u>1,661,020</u>
	<u>77</u>	\$ 22,291,204	\$ 17,555,202

The Water Department has 7 buildings with a replacement cost of \$453,817 and a depreciated value of \$318,704, which are maintained by that department from its own funds. The reason for this is that the Water Department is self-supporting.

All work under this category is under the charge of the Supervisor of Maintenance. Under his direction are 9 skilled mechanics; namely 3 carpenters, 2 painters, 3 plumbers, and steam fitters employed on the maintenance of the above 77 public buildings. Work such as roof repairs, repairs to masonry, repairs to refractory linings of boilers, painting, etc. are let to commercial firms as the city has no facilities for doing work of this nature. Even flagstaffs are quite an item. There are State laws governing the flying of flags on school buildings and other public buildings and places flying them on holidays. There are some 60 flag poles in all.

INSPECTION OF PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

The Building Department office staff consists of the following:

- 1 Public Buildings Commissioner
- 1 Supervisor of Building Inspectors
- 3 Building Inspectors
- 2 Plumbing Inspectors
- 1 Principal Clerk
- 1 Telephone Operator & Clerk
- 1 Clerk & Relief Telephone Operator

This staff has been responsible for executing the building code, the zoning ordinance, and the statutes of the commonwealth relating to buildings and the enforcement of regulations relating to plumbing.

Under this staff is also the supervision of the staff of custodians, firemen, and janitresses having the care of the City Hall and War Memorial, and the Police Station.

BUILDING CODE

During the past 42 years permits for which records are readily accessible covering work to the extent of \$161,114, 695.00 have passed through this department. The work involved consists of the receiving of applications, the issuance of building permits, and the inspection of the construction to see that it complies with the Building Code and the Zoning Ordinance.

ZONING ORDINANCE

The original ordinance passed on December 27, 1922 covered the use of buildings and structures, but not lands. On December 16, 1935 the zoning of lands was included in the ordinance. On December 1, 1939 the "lot size" amendment was passed controlling the size of lots of properties sub-divided after that date.

The zoning map indicates in colors and symbols the zone of every part of Newton.

By adding up the areas of all properties in the residential districts it is apparent that 93% of the city is restricted to the construction of one or two-family dwellings, and only 1% where apartment houses would likely be built, and the remaining 6% in business and manufacturing districts. Under the ordinance it would be permissible to build apartment houses in this 6% area, but doubtful if they would be built there, as they would run the risk of having stores or factories built adjacent to them.

A study is now being made by Professor Adams of M. I. T. of the areas where the construction of apartment houses might be considered. Any change in the Zoning Ordinance to include these proposed districts would have to be considered by the Board of Aldermen and the Planning Board after a public hearing.

STATUTES OF THE COMMONWEALTH

On November 1, 1945 as a result of the Coconut Grove disaster, certain provisions of the General Laws, which were formerly enforced by State Building Inspectors of the Department of Public Safety, were turned over to the local building inspectors of cities and towns throughout the Commonwealth for enforcement. This imposed a considerable burden on the building departments of cities and towns, in most all instances without additional personnel. These duties are summarized as follows:

The inspection of -

- (1) Places of assembly other than theatres, schools, churches, and special and public halls.
- (2) Apartment houses, lodging houses, nursing and boarding homes, stores, factories, and mercantile establishments employing 10 or more, and public buildings.
- (3) Miscellaneous halls.
- (4) Restaurants, clubs, taverns or any place serving food.

Question

What is all the building activity on the turnpike on the left toward Boston after you pass Hammond Pond Parkway?

Answer

At the present time the following retail stores have buildings under construction on the turnpike near the Brookline line:

Wm. Filene's Sons Company
S. S. Pierce Company
R. H. Stearns Company
Franklin Simon Company
Several specialty shops

All of these stores will be of the most modern type of construction and will provide parking space on the site for all cars.

VETERANS' HOUSING PROJECT

The Veterans' Housing Project is now completed. There are 413 single dwellings in all. Although built under the direction of the Veterans' Housing Department it entailed a considerable amount of work for all other departments including the Building Department. The streets and sidewalks are all completed and the lawns green and every Newton citizen should make it a point to drive through this development before winter sets in.

IN CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I wish to go on record as to the fine cooperation of all members of the Building Department staff and other city departments over the years and to thank W C R B for this opportunity to speak.

November 7, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Greetings, Bill: -

This is the Thirteenth Broadcast in the Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint our citizens with City Government operations, here at Newton City Hall.

This afternoon, we will present Mr. Edmund T. Dungan, Agent, of the Department of Veterans' Services, who has been the head of this Department since February, 1933.

The Agent is responsible for furnishing such information, advice and assistance to Veterans of World War II, or other veterans, as may be necessary to enable them to procure the benefits to which they are or may be entitled relative to employment, vocational or other educational opportunities, hospitalization, medical care, pensions and other veterans' benefits.

In fact, there are so many comprehensive services rendered by the Department of Veterans' Services they can better be told by our capable and understanding Agent.

I am privileged to present to you, Bill, Edmund T. Dungan, Agent of the Department of Veterans' Services, whose experiences are manifold and whose administration is both practical and efficient.

Bill, here's Ed Dungan who has a most interesting message for the citizens of Newton.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour, we will present to our radio audience Mr. John D. Wright, Chairman of the Board of Assessors. I prevailed upon Mr. Wright to step in, and I'm pleased to present John to you for a quick - - - "Hello!"



VETERANS' SERVICES DEPARTMENT

EDMUND T. DUNGAN, AGENT

QUESTION: Will you tell us about the Veterans' Services Department?

Massachusetts was one of the first States that adopted laws to help the worthy and needy veteran. As a matter of fact, laws governing such veterans were adopted shortly after the Civil War, and have been amended year after year until what was formerly known as Soldiers' Relief, Military Aid and State Aid is now known as Veterans' Benefits.

This Department was created by the Board of Aldermen on January 16, 1933, on the recommendation of former Mayor Sinclair Weeks.

Previous to that time Soldiers' Relief was handled by the City Clerk, and State Aid and Military Aid were handled by the Comptroller.

To be eligible for Veterans' Benefits, a veteran must have a Newton Military Settlement. That is, he must have been living in Newton at the time of entry into the Armed Forces and between certain dates. In World War I from April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918, in World War II between September 16, 1940 and December 31, 1946. The only way he can lose his settlement is to leave the State for five years. He gains a new settlement by living five consecutive years in some other city or town in Massachusetts.

Veterans' Benefits are granted to Newton settled veterans and their dependents on authorization from the State Department of Veterans' Services.

QUESTION: From what source is the money derived to pay Veterans' Benefits and how is the budget determined?

The money for these benefits is derived through the tax levy and is appropriated each year by the Board of Aldermen. The State sets up the budget per family, ranging from \$58.00 per month for one person to \$94.00 for man and wife, plus \$36.00 for two children and \$16.00 per month for each additional child. In addition to this fuel and medical care are allowed.

On all cases authorized by the State, the City receives 50% reimbursement and this is paid to the City once each year.

QUESTION: How do you classify Veterans' Services?

It is rather difficult to cover fully what constitutes Veterans' Services. Multiplicity of duties includes anything the veteran wants to know concerning his rights and we act as a clearing house. Information not immediately available, etc., we refer the veteran to the proper agency who can give him the answer or we obtain the answer for him.

During 1948 we had 8,178 requests for such information, this averaged 31 per day.

We are constantly studying Federal, State and Municipal Laws affecting veterans, covering such benefits as education and training, compensation, pension, death benefits, insurance, civil service, jobs, real estate tax exemptions, hospitalization, etc.

QUESTION: Can you tell us something about veterans' admission to hospitals?

I wish to impress upon the veterans that the quickest way to be admitted to a veterans' hospital in an emergency is to have the family doctor call the hospital direct, as he alone can give the diagnosis to determine just what the emergency is.

If it is not an emergency and the veteran wants to have an operation, he can file a P-10 with the Veterans Administration and will be notified when a bed is available and the name of the hospital.

He can also get a physical check-up at the Out Patient Department of the John Adams Hospital in Chelsea, which is better known as Soldiers' Home Hospital. All he has to do is call the hospital for an appointment and have his honorable discharge or a photostat copy with him when he arrives at the hospital.

QUESTION: What about real estate tax emptions?

Any veteran who is drawing compensation of 10% or more for a service-connected disability, and is the record owner and living in the dwelling on January 1st and has an equity of not over \$8,000.00 is entitled to a \$2,000.00 tax exemption. This applies also to Gold Star mothers or fathers, widows of veterans who were in receipt of compensation at the rate of 10% or more and who died from causes as a result of this service connection. Effective January 1, 1950, veterans awarded the Purple Heart will be entitled to this exemption. I would like to issue a word of warning to those entitled to this exemption. When the tax bill is received, file the application for abatement at once. October 1st was the deadline for filing, and a considerable number of those eligible failed to file before October 1st and therefore were not allowed the exemption. This is a State Law and the Board of Assessors can make no exception to this law.

QUESTION: Can you tell us something about burials of veterans?

Another division of the Department takes care of graves registration and burials of veterans.

We maintain records of burials from the Revolutionary War up to and including World War II.

These graves registration records are used in conjunction with the United Veterans' Organization of Newton for the decoration of graves on Memorial Day.

This office assisted in arranging military rites for seventy World War II Veterans whose bodies were returned from overseas.

In the War Memorial Building which is part of City Hall is a hall called the "Hall of Flags".

In this hall with its chapel like setting, the bodies of fourteen returned World War II Veterans have at various times laid in state the day before burial.

Honor guards and firing squads were furnished by the various veterans' organizations.

The Veterans' Lot in the Newton Cemetery comes under the jurisdiction of this Department.

In this lot at the present time are buried 32 Civil War veterans, 4 Spanish War veterans, 1 Indian Campaign veteran, 26 World War I and 29 World War II veterans.

The government furnishes free a regulation headstone, either upright or flat, for those men buried in the Veterans' Lot or for any honorably discharged veteran who dies if application is made and the cemetery will allow such headstones.

The inserting of names on the Honor Roll at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Walnut Street is also done by this Department. There are over 9,200 names on this Honor Roll.

We are now sending out to the nearest of kin a questionnaire to find out the number of men still listed as missing in World War II, so that our records will be up to date and some means found to erect a Memorial to them. Memorial Day is a day of lonesomeness to many of the nearest of kin as there is no plot of ground where they can place flowers in memory of those lost in World War II. If and when this Memorial is erected in the Veterans' Lot in Newton Cemetery, we hope it will be a source of comfort to the mothers and widows on Memorial Day.

QUESTION: What does your office force consist of?

The office force consists of Agent, Investigator, Principal Clerk and Clerk-Typist.

Our total budget for the year 1948 was \$33,701.00 and we expended \$31,850.36. Of this amount \$18,605.49 was expended for Veterans' Benefits for which the State reimbursed the City \$9,030.65.

Based on 80,000 population the per capita would be 23¢ per year and on the veteran population of 11,900 the per capita would be \$1.56 per year.

Due to economic conditions, the budget this year will be higher. Another factor that can't be anticipated is Sickness or hospitalization of the veteran. We make every effort to have a veteran admitted to a Veterans' Hospital, but the dependents of a veteran are not entitled to treatment at a V. A. Hospital.

We are called upon frequently to assist the dependents of veterans while the veteran is in the hospital.

We have approximately 8,000 photostats of discharges in this office and urgently request that those veterans of both wars who have not had their honorable discharges recorded and photostated will do so at once. The photostatic service is free.

Remember, the government issues only one honorable discharge. If this is lost, burned or destroyed, it will take approximately six months to get a certificate in lieu of lost discharge.

The honorable discharge is a valuable piece of paper when you need it, insure your discharge by having it recorded in this office.

In closing, we want our veterans to feel free, at all times, if and when they are troubled with Veterans' problems that the personnel of their Veterans' Services Department of the Newton City Government located in the City Hall are always ready to give them service, to which they are entitled.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

November 14, 1949

Greetings, Bill: -

This is the Fourteenth Broadcast in the Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint the citizenry of Newton with City Government Operations here at Newton City Hall.

This afternoon we will present Mr. John D. Wright, Chairman of the Board of Assessors, a resident of the City of Newton since 1932.

Mr. Wright is a member of the Massachusetts Bar, and formerly served as Chairman of the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board.

The Board of Assessors by ordinance consists of three persons, all of whom devote full time to their duties. Newton is unique in this respect inasmuch as many cities and towns only employ part-time Boards.

The Assessors have been held by the Supreme Court to be Public Officials, and their duties are fixed by Statute. It is the duty of the Board to produce the necessary revenue with which to administer City Government and to fix the tax rate after they learn what revenue is required to operate the City.

I have the honor of presenting to you, Bill, and through you, to our radio audience, Mr. John D. Wright, Chairman of the Newton Board of Assessors, whose natural leadership has created considerable goodwill in helping to make Newton the finest City of its class in the country.

Mr. Wright will illustrate many matters designed to make our City - - a progressive City.

Bill - - Here's John D. Wright.

At this same hour next week, Bill, we will present Mr. Harold A. Wooster, Secretary of the Board of Trustees and Librarian of The Newton Free Library, to our radio audience. Mr. Wooster just dropped in to say a brief "Hello". I'm pleased to present to you Mr. Wooster.

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT
JOHN D. WRIGHT, CHAIRMAN

November 14, 1949

The function of the Assessing Department is to raise revenue with which to run the City Government.

After the budget is passed, the Assessing Department estimates the probable receipts from the City activities and also the amount which the State will distribute to the City as its share of the income tax, corporation tax and the meals tax. After these estimated receipts are deducted from the City Budget, the balance represents the amount required to be levied as a tax in order to furnish the necessary revenue.

QUESTION: What are the main sources of revenue?

ANSWER: Our main sources of revenue, as most of you know, are the real estate tax, the automobile excise, personal property tax and poll tax.

From these four sources comes practically all the money with which to administer the City Government.

The real estate tax, as the name implies, is assessed on land and buildings throughout the City. In the present year, the amount of real estate assessed in Newton was \$176,687,100. and with a tax rate of \$36.00 which, by the way, was the lowest approved tax rate of any city in Massachusetts, it produced revenue amounting to \$6,360,735.

The assessors are required by State Law to assess property at its fair cash value and that is the market value or, in other words, what it will sell for in the open market. At the present time, our assessments are, in most cases, below the so-called fair cash value, and this is due mainly to the fact that we have a high market for real estate and it has not been certain how long this high market would continue. Prices are apparently, at this date, down to some extent, but brokers tell us that the trend downward is perhaps 10% or less. Scanning the newspapers, one observes that many parcels of real estate are changing hands these days at prices well above the assessed value.

In a period of depression, selling prices of real estate have, on occasion, been below assessed values. During these periods of depression, the Assessors' Office usually receives a greater number of applications for abatement and grants more abatements than during periods of high market values, when the office receives a less number of applications for abatement and finds occasion to give less abatements.

Under the Massachusetts General Laws, real and personal property of incorporated benevolent, charitable and literary institutions are exempt from local taxation, provided that such properties are used only for the purposes for which they are incorporated; and that there is no division of income or profits among the stockholders or members. Houses of religious worship and all federal, state, county and city property are also exempt.

In 1948 we had real and personal property exempt in the amount of \$51,203,648. Of this amount, however, the City of Newton had its own property exempt to the extent of \$29,484,448. For the most part, City-owned property consists of public buildings, including school houses, libraries, etc. The remaining exempt property consisting of benevolent, charitable, religious and literary institutions and cemeteries is valued at \$21,719,200.

Now as to personal property tax:--A lot of us would like to know more about it and why do we have it and what personal property is assessed?

Like the real estate tax, the personal property tax is also authorized by State Law, which requires taxpayers to file a list on or before January 31st each year of their personal property, such as furniture, furnishings, jewelry, musical instruments, radios and television sets.

In the absence of such a list, the law requires the Assessors to make an estimate of the personal property of each householder in the City.

The rate of tax on personal property is always the same as on real estate.

In Newton, we assess about \$20,000,000. worth of personal property and during the present year, that amount of personal property yielded a tax of \$718,781.

The State Laws have required Assessors to assess this type of property since the early colonial days.

How about the automobile excise, so-called? Is that handled in the same manner as the real estate and personal property tax?

No. The excise on automobiles is administered in a little different manner than the other taxes. It is assessed by the State Tax Commissioner's Office and the value is placed by that office, according to a schedule set up by the State Legislature. The values are based on the list price of cars new, with an annual amount allowed for depreciation.

In Newton, there is assessed annually approximately 30,000 automobiles and the total amount collected from this excise in 1948 was about \$428,000. It is estimated that during 1949 this amount will be increased considerably by reason of the fact that so many new automobiles have been acquired during the past year.

The poll tax is assessed on all male inhabitants who are of age and this tax is in the amount of \$2.00 for each male. Men over the age of seventy (70) are exempted from the tax when they request it, and in 1950 males above sixty-five (65) years of age, who are assessed a poll tax, may be exempted upon application.

In order to properly prepare for the poll tax work, the Newton Police Department annually lists every inhabitant above the age of twenty (20) living in the City on January First. This information which the police gather is not only used by our Department, but it is used extensively by the City Clerk and Registrars of Voters in making up the list of voters.

Have you anything further to add about the subject of assessing in Newton?

It occurs to me that our listeners might be interested to learn that our City, with an estimated population of about 85,000 people, has a total valuation of over \$200,000,000. and ranks about third in valuation in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. You might be interested also to know something about the set-up of the Assessing Department at City Hall.

The Board consists of three members and four assistant assessors, who serve only a short time during the course of the year. The Board of three, however, give their full time during business hours to the work of assessing.

We have a staff numbering fourteen and they are kept exceedingly busy throughout the year in connection with the assessment work. They are called upon to answer hundreds of telephone calls and also to deal directly with the public over the counter. Many of the questions which are asked are technical and our girls, through experience, have acquired a thorough knowledge of assessment problems and thus are enabled to give complete and intelligent answers to all queries coming into the office.

Two of the Assessors are outside the office viewing property much of the time, and at times all three Assessors are in the field giving attention to the condition of property in each particular locality and giving consideration to every factor of value. In assessing real estate, Assessors are required to give due weight to all elements which make up value, such as re-construction, less depreciation, obsolescence, especially if the property is fairly old, income, if the property is business or income property, location and condition. Equality of value is a standard which the Newton Assessors constantly strive for, so that the assessments throughout the City may be fair and equable. In order to maintain this standard, it is necessary for the Board to give constant attention to the 23,000 properties located in every section of Newton.

We are proud of our small staff and consider it a very efficient group. It requires an alert and capable force to handle the very large volume of work which this Department must handle during each year.

Our total budget for the administration of the office in 1949 was approximately \$51,000.

CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION OF

MR. HAROLD A. WOOSTER

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIAN

NOVEMBER 21, 1949

Hello again, Bill:

Yes, this is the 15th, in the Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint the citizenry of Newton, with City Government operations, here at Newton City Hall.

This afternoon, we will present Mr. Harold A. Wooster, Secretary of the Board of Trustees and Librarian of the Newton Free Library, since 1942.

The Newton Free Library has a long and effective history of service. That is has not yet exhausted its possibilities of service is apparent inasmuch as the Newton Free Library has a circulation at the rate of $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million books between January 1st and November 1st, this year.

This splendid record, indeed, is an achievement.

It is my privilege, Bill, to present to you Newton's Librarian, Harold A. Wooster, under whose direction the above named accomplishments have become a reality and likewise worthwhile. Bill - - - here's Harold A. Wooster.

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At this same hour next week, Bill, we will present Mr. Frank M. Grant, Newton's City Clerk. We invited Mr. Grant to step in today, and here he is for a quick "Hello."

CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

MR. HAROLD A. WOOSTER

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIAN

NOVEMBER 21, 1949

BILL SHERMAN: Are all city libraries pretty much alike?

MR. WOOSTER: City libraries may resemble each other, do have common purposes, methods, practices, are standardized in a number of ways but do and should take on the characteristics of the Community which they serve. Newton is a residential city, with a high per capita standard of education, it is a city with a number of natural centers instead of single one. The Newton Free Library has a main Library, a central Boys' and Girls' Library and ten branch libraries, five of these are large branches with modern brick buildings of their own, five are smaller branch libraries, of these three are located in public schools, one is in a former fire station and one in a rented store. This is a diversified library system which is natural to Newton. In fact these five large branch libraries were, in general, erected and paid for by the citizens of the Community they serve. In few cities have citizens had so large a direct share in building their libraries of the kind and type which they desired. The original part of the Main Library and its valuable lot was also a gift of the citizens of the 1860ies. A number of special funds have been given, during the over three-quarters of a century that the Newton Library has been in operation. With the interest of citizens and the support of the City government Newton has developed a rather large library system for a city of its size but in complete accord with its circumstances. In fact the Main Library needs to be enlarged and modernized and at least two of the smaller branches need new quarters. There are also new sections of the City which need additional branch library services. This is to keep pace with the growth of Newton.

BILL SHERMAN: How large is the Newton Free Library anyway?

MR. WOOSTER: For a general picture it has a combined book collection of one quarter of a million books, and annual book circulation of three quarters of a million books, and approximately thirty thousand registered borrowers. The library staff consists of forty-two full time persons (including six men who look after the buildings and motor vehicle operator) and as many more student assistants and part-time workers. The library is a reservoir of books for the use of Newton citizens, for both educational and recreational purposes. It is a far flung battle line of desks to be manned and facilities to be made available. The circulation of books for the first ten months of 1949 was 381,101 books borrowed by adults, 210,747 books borrowed by children, a grand total of 591,848 vols, with circulation to the schools since September not included. The increase in juvenile circulation for the year is 21,710 volumes, the adult increase is 7528 volumes.

BILL SHERMAN: It is apparent that Newton has a large and active library system, but "What does it cost?"

MR. WOOSTER: The cost would be only a very tiny fraction of the tax dollar. The total city appropriation to the Library Department for the year 1949 is \$167,654.

On a per capita basis the operating cost of the library is approximately \$2.00 per capita. In a general way for less than the cost of an average novel the Newton Citizen borrows ten books and has the use of the library reading rooms and reference services as well. When you see a person sitting and reading a public library book you are seeing about the cheapest and yet one of the most efficient ways of securing educational and recreational advantages.

The 1949 Library Department budget is divided as follows: salaries, library staff and custodians \$120,304; office expense \$5,300; maintenance of autos \$1,000; care of buildings, fuel, light, etc. \$16,000; books, binding, periodicals \$23,000; rent of branch library \$960; special appropriation, furniture for new children's room \$1,000. The library returns to the city treasury about \$1,000 a month in fines and collections. Trust funds supply an income of some five thousand dollars a year which is in general expended in strengthening the book collection.

BILL SHERMAN: Who selects the books?

MR. WOOSTER: While a steady stream of new books passes through the catalog room there never seems to be enough of the new books, and books in special demand. Readers make many requests for books, book lists are studied and especially professional book guides and services, help in selecting titles for purchase. In 1948, eleven thousand, three hundred and seven books were added, and 3,736 volumes withdrawn. These figures will be surpassed in 1949. Children's books, reference books, fiction, new books in various subject fields, replacements, books for the branch libraries, books for the young and the old, books on hobbies, technical books, an honest effort is made to serve a wide variety of interests, yet demands exceed supplies.

BILL SHERMAN: What does the Newton Library furnish besides books?

MR. WOOSTER: Perhaps we should place periodicals next. The library subscribes to 375 different periodicals and newspapers, or including duplicates, a total of 788 subscriptions. This gives a wide range of up to date and specialized knowledge and information. While access to the current periodicals is important the back files of these periodicals are of very great reference value. The use of libraries changes and an important change of recent years has been the increased use of the library by the increased student population, many of these consult and use the periodicals.

The library has a strong collection of art books and over forty thousand mounted and classified pictures. It also has a good collection of music books and a collection of musical records which can be borrowed. Up to November first, 5,166 were borrowed, nearly double the number of the previous year.

BILL SHERMAN: What about reference work?

MR. WOOSTER: Correct information is a very valuable commodity. A student or adult seeking the answer to a question often uses several hundred dollars worth of books in encyclopedias, indices and reference tools not usually available except in libraries. We do not keep a record of questions asked and answered but it is an important part of every day's activity at the Main and branch libraries.

BILL SHERMAN: Do you have special services for Boys' and Girls'?

MR. WOOSTER: Yes, this is rather of a specialty of the Newton Library. The separate Boys' and Girls' Library on Vernon Street near the Main Library has an important collection of children's books which represent careful selection over a period of years. The second floor of this building houses a school collection where books are sent out to the various elementary class rooms as requested by teachers. The annual book circulation of this collection is over seventy thousand volumes. Recreational books are also sent to the junior high school libraries. The Newton Schools have junior and senior high school libraries and librarians in addition to the use of public library facilities.

In the larger branch libraries there are special childrens' rooms, with specialized children's librarians in charge. The selection and supervision of the childrens book collections at the various branch libraries is done by the staff of the main Boys' and Girls' library. This last week in connection with Book Week some fifty classes visited the Boys' and Girls' library and the childrens' rooms of the branch libraries. Book talks were given by the childrens' librarians and special book displays and exhibits were shown. The number of books borrowed by the children during the week showed a sharp increase. Selected lists of children's books are published each year by this department. The cooperation of Newton schools and the public library is close in Newton.

BILL SHERMAN: Are there other important services which the library provides?

MR. WOOSTER: At the Newtohville Branch Library there is a centrally located, attractive library hall with a seating capacity of one hundred. Some eighty meetings of a civic, educational, cultural nature were held in this hall last year. The Auburndale Branch Library also has a library hall. This room will seat 150 persons and also is in frequent use. Two very busy occasions were as a voting precinct and a science fair held by the schools of Auburndale. In the main rooms of the Plummer Memorial - Auburndale Branch Library the Auburndale Garden Club holds an annual Flower Show which is a community event of much interest. During the fall and winter, story hours are held in the library hall.

BILL SHERMAN: Was there a new development at Auburndale this year?

MR. WOOSTER: The Annie Plummer Corey Children's Room was dedicated on April 8th. This building was given in her memory by her brother the late Frederick Plummer. It is a very beautiful room with pleasing proportions, and abundance of natural light with furniture and furnishings in pleasing harmony. It has been visited and appreciated by many visiting children's librarians.

BILL SHERMAN: What is the working relationship between the Main and Branch Libraries?

MR. WOOSTER: The Newton Free Library card entitles the holder to use any of the library facilities. Books may be borrowed from or returned to any of the libraries of the system. Five days of the week the library truck makes the circuit of the branches taking out books which have been requested and returning books to the main library. This truck also takes books to and from the schools and the various branch library buildings and rooms. A Library sedan is used for supervision purposes. Transportation is an important factor in a city like Newton.

There is a very busy room at the Main Library where the daily exchange of books with the branch libraries is carried out. Two persons give full time to this work assisted by other staff members. The branch libraries have the convenience of being a neighborhood library, but the Main Library has the largest book collection and the best reference equipment. In addition to the branches which have been mentioned the Newton library has a room at the Newton-Wellesley hospital and three days a week provides a book truck service to the patients of this hospital.

BILL SHERMAN: How is the Newton Free Library managed and operated?

MR. WOOSTER: There is a board of five library trustees appointed by the mayor with the approval of the Board of Aldermen. They are public spirited citizens of wide experience, serving without pay, and representing citizen interest. Monthly board meetings are held and matters of policy are discussed and acted upon. The trustees are Judge Thomas Weston, President, Mr. John F. Brown, Treasurer, Mr. William H. McAdams, Mr. James P. Gallagher, Mr. Vincent P. Roberts. The librarian is the administrative officer of the library and secretary of the Library Board. The Newton Free Library, which is the original name, is the Library Department of the City of Newton.

The Library budget is first approved by the library board, then considered and acted on by the mayor, the Finance Committee and the Board of Aldermen. The library staff are all city employees, and the key positions on the library staff are professional in nature and require special library training and experience.

We think of the library as books, buildings, staff, as budget and circulation statistics but the "Consumer," the library user is a most important factor in creating quality library service. A recent survey of public libraries, called the "Public Library Inquiry" states that the most important factor in the amount of reading done, the number of books borrowed, depends on the amount of education in a community. Another major factor is proximity or easy access to books. The type of Newton citizens and the number of library units combine to give Newton a high per capita circulation of public library books. A person who travelled extensively back and forth across this country stated that the best indication as to whether a city or town was a good place to live in was the character of public library which it supported. Fine communities make fine libraries and fine libraries help to make fine communities. The Newton Free Library is an integral part of the culture of this city.

November 28, 1949

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Greetings again, Bill:

Once again, Monday has rolled around, for our weekly broadcast of Informational Programs designed to better acquaint our citizenry with their City Government and its operations - - - here in Newton.

For this, the 16th broadcast we are presenting Newton's City Clerk, Mr. Frank M. Grant, who started his career as a Clerk in 1905, later assumed the office of Assistant City Clerk, and in 1911 Mr. Grant was appointed Newton's City Clerk.

The duties of our City Clerk are manifold. They include the processing of all orders passed by the Board of Aldermen authorizing appropriations, assessments, apportionments or abatements. His Department also handles all orders appropriating money to be expended, or directing or authorizing the doing of anything, immediately after such orders are approved by the Mayor or are otherwise in force and under the jurisdiction of the City Clerk, such as the general management of elections, certain types of licenses, etc.

It is obvious that such City matters as must necessarily be directed by the City Clerk are handled most capably, efficiently and with understanding.

Bill, I have the honor of presenting to you and thru you to our radio audience Mr. Frank M. Grant, Newton's City Clerk who, you'll find has a ready and practical answer to any question we might frame on City matters. His is a most interesting message and pertains to many functions that are an every day occurrence.

Bill - - - Here is Frank M. Grant.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour we will present Mr. Harold B. Gores, Superintendent of Schools in the City of Newton.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE DUTIES OF THE CITY CLERK?

The City Clerk has a variety of duties to perform for the public. Many of our citizens are familiar with some of these duties, because they have many personal contacts with the office! They must come to the City Clerk for their marriage licenses when the occasion requires it, or for copies of birth records as proof of age when applying for driving licenses, working certificates, passports and for many other purposes. Any who wish to hunt or fish must also contact the City Clerk and a person cannot vote unless he first sees the Clerk and has his name added to the list of registered voters.

All matters requiring action by the Board of Aldermen go through the City Clerk's office, as well as Workmen's Compensation cases, recording of mortgages, annual listing of residents of the city 20 years of age and over on January 1st, all contracts, dog licenses and the office is also the depository of a large accumulation of early and current records, including reports, directories, laws and Ordinances. These are kept readily accessible to the public, and there are many calls for them from day to day.

All of these duties require an active office force, to assist the City Clerk. The city is fortunate in having a number of assistants in the office who have been in the service for many years, and I am dependent upon them in fulfilling the duties of the office. They are uniformly courteous and ably assist in serving the public. They are well informed regarding the laws and requirements relating to the work in the office and give correct information and make proper record of matters coming to their attention.

NOW CAN YOU TELL US OF THE SETTLEMENT OF NEWTON, ITS EARLY HISTORY AND GROWTH?

The settlement of Newton is quite ancient history, it is going on 320 years now. You get a very good historical idea from the Seal of the City. The device of the Seal is a representation of John Eliot preaching to a group of Indians, with the words Liberty and Union, Nonantum, Newton, founded 1630, incorporated a town, 1688, a city, 1873.

Newton was originally a part of Cambridge which was known as Newtown, and Newton was first known as Cambridge Village. When Harvard College was established in 1638 The General Court ordered that Newtown should henceforward be called Cambridge,- In 1691 in answer to a petition of the inhabitants of Cambridge Village, sometimes called New Cambridge, now Newton, the General Court ordered that henceforth it be called Newtown. Since 1766 when Judge Fuller was Town Clerk, it has been recorded as Newton.

Jackson's early history defines Newtown as "containing about 12,900 acres, the Charles River encircling a large portion of it; with many excellent mill sites; and its soil as various; it contained a handsome proportion of rich productive land, with considerable wood for fuel and its cider had long maintained a good reputation at the market. Increasing attention was paid to the improvement of the fruit by inoculation and grafting. The land situation was generally elevated and with little low or sunken land. It was acknowledged to possess an uncommon proportion of choice and beautiful sites for country seats. It was remarkably distinguished for the salubrity of its air and the health and longevity of its inhabitants."

There have been many country seats and large estates throughout the city, but with the high prices of land and the demand for house lots, they are gradually being cut up and are disappearing.

Many of our citizens took a prominent part in and will remember with pleasure our Tercentenary Celebration in 1930. During this 300th anniversary celebration, many historical spots throughout the city were marked with proper identification monuments, and may be seen now.

HOW MANY CITY CLERKS HAVE WE HAD IN NEWTON?

There were about 12 Town Clerks in 250 years before Newton became a city, and since then there have been only 4 City Clerks in 76 years: Julius L. Clarke served from 1874 to 1876; Edwin O. Childs, Sr., from 1876 to 1883; and Col. Isaac F. Kingsbury from 1883 to 1911. I have been City Clerk since 1911, and was formerly in the U. S. Navy Department, employed as a stenographer.

HAVE WE HAD MANY CHANGES IN OUR FORM OF GOVERNMENT?

The first City Charter provided that the inhabitants of the town of Newton were to continue to be a body politic and corporate, under the name of the city of Newton, and as such to have, exercise and enjoy all the rights, immunities, powers and privileges, and to be subject to all the duties and obligations now incumbent upon and pertaining to the town as a municipal corporation.

The administration of all the fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs, with the government thereof, were to be vested in a Mayor, a Board of Aldermen of six members and a common council of 12 members. No member of either board was to receive compensation for his services. And the City of Newton is now one of the few cities in the Commonwealth whose members of the City Government with the exception of the Mayor are not paid for their services. The School Committee consisted of 12 members. The city was divided into six wards. Elections were held annually on the first Tuesday of December.

This form of government continued until 1882 when an amendment to the Charter divided the city into seven wards and provided for a Mayor, 7 aldermen and 14 councilmen, and 14 members of the School Committee.

Further amendments to the Charter in 1898 provided for a City Government substantially as it is now organized, with a Mayor, and 21 aldermen. The School Committee which consisted of 14 members has since been reduced to 7 members. Later amendments have provided for biennial elections, instead of annual elections, and city primaries have been discontinued. The Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the School Committee now have two year terms and are elected by the Preferential Ballot system. We have just had an election for Mayor, Aldermen and School Committee. A word about our Preferential System of Voting might be of interest. (See Insert Page 3-A for explanation.)

Most cities have either Party Primaries or Knock Out elections prior to their regular election. Under the Primary system one Democrat and one Republican is nominated at Primaries prior to the City Election and are contestants at the Election.

DO PEOPLE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF VOTING FIRST AND SECOND CHOICES?

They do not to any great extent. Voters prefer to cast one vote only, otherwise known as bullets. However, the theory is that in a field of three candidates, two of the stronger candidates might divide a large percentage of the vote, and the third candidate or minority candidate would be elected with possibly only 1/3 of the total vote. This would be prevented if second choices were used as it is believed that one of the two stronger candidates would receive many second choice votes of each other's supporters and when added to his first choice votes would be sufficient to defeat the minority candidate.

Advocates of the Preferential Elections believe it results in a cleaner personal campaign, as candidates naturally refrain from alienating the regards of their opponents and the probability of losing second choice votes of the supporters of their opponents.

Our last City Election with Primaries was held in 1915.

In 1913, Edwin O. Childs with Democratic and Independent Citizen nomination received 2,773 votes defeating Allston Burr, with Republican and Progressive nominations who received 2,593 votes. In 1915 Mr. Childs, with Republican and Democratic nominations, received 3,561 votes, defeating Abbot B. Rice, who received 1,939 votes.

By Special Act of the General Court, we have had Preferential Voting since 1916 without Primary or Preliminary election.

The saving has been about \$5,000 for each Primary eliminated. Furthermore, Primaries and City Elections following State Elections were not very popular and as a rule were lightly attended, and were discarded without much opposition.

In the Knock Out Election prior to the regular election, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes are contestants at the Election. Under the Preferential System in Newton, the expense of \$5,000 for conducting a Primary or Knock Out election is saved by the city. Any person may be a candidate at the City Election simply by filing nomination papers. If there are more than 2 candidates for an office, provision is made on the ballot for first and second choices. In counting ballots, if no candidate receives a majority of first choice votes, then the second choices are added to the first choices, and the candidate receiving the highest number of first and second choices together is elected.

OF THE MANY VARIETIES OF WORK IN YOUR OFFICE, WHICH LINE DO YOU FIND MOST CONGENIAL?

I have always enjoyed my work and association with the Board of Aldermen as confidential secretary and acting as sort of Liaison Officer between the Mayor and the Board. Much of the work of the Board emanates with the Mayor. In fact, practically all matters relating to various departments must receive the Mayor's recommendation, including all appropriations to be made. All appointments must be confirmed by the Board of Aldermen.

With the present building boom and development of new areas, demands are increasing for acceptance of streets and sewer work on new streets, which must be done by the city. Older residents on the older streets of the city should continue to file their petitions for these improvements. Work of this kind is limited to the amount of money available each year, and improvements on unaccepted streets prior to acceptance are not likely to be authorized by the Board of Aldermen,- which involves assessments for betterments against the owners of property on the streets, unless petitions are made for the improvements and acceptance. Usually the value of the improvements in the street far exceeds the cost of the work, for which assessments are levied against the owners of property on the street at fixed maximum rates. Considerable time elapses after petitions

are filed before the improvements are authorized on account of necessary engineering work of preparing plans, and making estimates of cost, and holding public hearings, and finally authorization by the Board of Aldermen.

There have been unusual requests and petitions to the Board of Aldermen during the past year, requiring appropriations for increased work in various departments, for pension increases, for new schools, and other buildings, street and sewer extensions, Veterans' Housing; also an unusual number of zoning petitions of various kinds, as well as petitions for licenses, pole and conduit locations and many other items, all of which are shown on bi-weekly dockets prepared by this office. These matters have received prompt consideration and been acted upon without delay and at this time nearly all matters which have come to the Board during the year have been acted upon by the Board of Aldermen.

WHAT ACHIEVEMENT DO YOU THINK IS OUTSTANDING WHICH REQUIRED BOARD OF ALDERMEN BACKING?

The construction of our City Hall and War Memorial was a great event in the lives of the citizens of Newton, and particularly to those who were in the city employ and worked in the old City Hall in West Newton. Work on the City Hall was started at the time of the 300th Tercentenary Anniversary in 1930 and completed in 1932 and the transfer from the old City Hall, a wooden, reconverted church to the new City Hall was accompanied by elaborate and fitting ceremony in 1932. There was some opposition to the change, naturally, with the stores, Post Office, Railroad Station, car line and all of the other facilities of a business centre at West Newton. The new location was the geographical centre of the City, but otherwise was not too attractive, being a rough section, with a store, three decker houses, gasoline station and other small buildings. Under the leadership of Mayor Sinclair Weeks and the Board of Aldermen the land was acquired at a nominal expense and the new building erected at a cost of about one million dollars. The building could not be duplicated under present conditions for probably twice that amount.

HAVE WE HAD A NUMBER OF MEN IN THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN WHO HAVE BEEN ADVANCED TO HIGHER POSITIONS IN PUBLIC LIFE?

United States Senator Leverett Saltonstall was a member of the Board of Aldermen in 1921 and 1922, later Representative, Speaker of the House, Lieutenant Governor, and Governor.

John W. Weeks was a member of the Board, Mayor, Member of Congress, U. S. Senator, and Secretary of War in President Harding's Cabinet; then Alonzo R. Weed, Member of the Board, Mayor, Judge of the Superior Court; Elias B. Bishop, Member of the Board, City Solicitor, Representative, Judge of the Superior Court; Matt E. Jones, Member and President of the Board and President of the Telephone Company; Joseph W. Bartlett, Member of the Board, City Solicitor; Edwin O. Childs, Mayor and County Commissioner; Charles E. Hatfield, Mayor and County Treasurer; Sinclair Weeks, Alderman, Mayor, U. S. Senator; Thomas W. White, Member of the Board of Aldermen, 1904 to 1908 and again 1922 to 1928, Representative and Internal Revenue Collector, State Commissioner of Education, 1925, 1929; T. Morton Gallagher, Member of the Board and present Medical Examiner; Thomas Weston, Member and President of the Board, State Senator, Associate Justice Newton District Court, and there are many others who have become members of the General Court or State Senate and many who have been appointed Heads of City Departments.

Our present Mayor, Theodore R. Lockwood, was an alderman for 10 years, and many other Aldermen have served also as Mayors.

WHAT DO YOU DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME, WHEN THE ELECTION RUSH IS OVER ?

We find work on Vital Statistics an interesting pastime. Births and marriages are recorded and arranged for quick reference, deaths, like taxes, we cannot miss and we regretfully record. Then we have hunting and fishing licenses for the sporting fraternity, mortgages on personal property for the banks and their patrons,

also Workmen's Compensation cases are handled in this office. This work consists in keeping a record of all accidents causing disability and loss of time, and of payment by the city from taxes for time lost at the maximum rate of \$30 a week, plus \$2.50 for wife and dependents under eighteen years of age. Minor injuries and scratches are reported by many to protect future rights, also chronic ailments such as back strains, hernias, heart attacks, as well as all kinds of serious injuries, including accidents resulting in death or total disability.

Estimates have been made from time to time on the cost of handling Workmen's Compensation cases by Insurance Companies, and it has been found more economical for the city to handle its own cases.

The management of elections is an important part of the City Clerk's duty. We have 26 precincts and 4 more will be added on January 1st, 1950. Public buildings in locations convenient for our 43,000 voters, are used for polling places.

Election officers are chosen for their ability, efficiency, and courtesy. They are aided by special instructions and self tabulating forms and by the appointment of many assistants on special occasions. They have performed creditable service in counting and tabulating ballots at State and City Elections, and returns are made accurately and promptly. There are vacancies in many of the precincts, particularly for all day and evening work. Applications are welcome from bookkeepers, bank clerks, accountants and people who have had practical experience in accounting work. Applications for appointment as election officers should be made in July and August, and not immediately before an election. The pay is the same as in other cities.

Then we have our dog licenses. There is some humor in this branch of our work. Every dog has his day, but April 1st is the day when his license must be paid. Owners cheerfully pay this tax. The issuance of dog licenses is an important part of our work. About 4,500 licenses and tags are issued annually. On one of our notices for renewal of license, an error was made relative to male dogs which was spelled as mail. We never before received such a flood of return mail with enclosures for

payment of licenses, and at the same time considerable ribbing over the new breed of dog we had created. We broke all records in number of licenses taken out that year. A Judge said he had an air dale dog, but had never heard of an air mail; another asked if a Mail dog referred to one in the Army; another if he was expected to carry the mail. One owner asked if he should pay by the ounce, being a mail dog, and if he had to, he thought the dog was worth it.

We have many calls to assist in restoring lost dogs to their owners, who are identified by the tags. Irish setters seem to be the worst offenders in wandering around in strange countries, and making dog lovers think they are lost. We really wonder if one of this type ever gets lost and is ever worried as much about getting home as the kind soul who finds him, not too far from his home, and telephones to report his dilemma. We do have calls at times from other states where dogs have been lost from cars, and through the tag system they are restored to their happy homes.

In closing I want to thank the management of this station for giving me this my first opportunity to speak over the radio. I hope my mother, who is now 94 years of age, is one of the listeners of my first and only attempt of this kind.

I am deeply grateful to members of the Board of Aldermen and to those in charge of the work of other departments of the city for all the assistance they have always willingly given me in fulfilling the duties of the office of City Clerk, particularly the work of the Board of Aldermen and the work in connection with elections.

Frank M. Grant,

City Clerk.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

December 5, 1949

Hello again, Bill:

Yes, this is the 17th Broadcast in this Series of Informational Programs, designed to acquaint our citizens with various City Government operations.

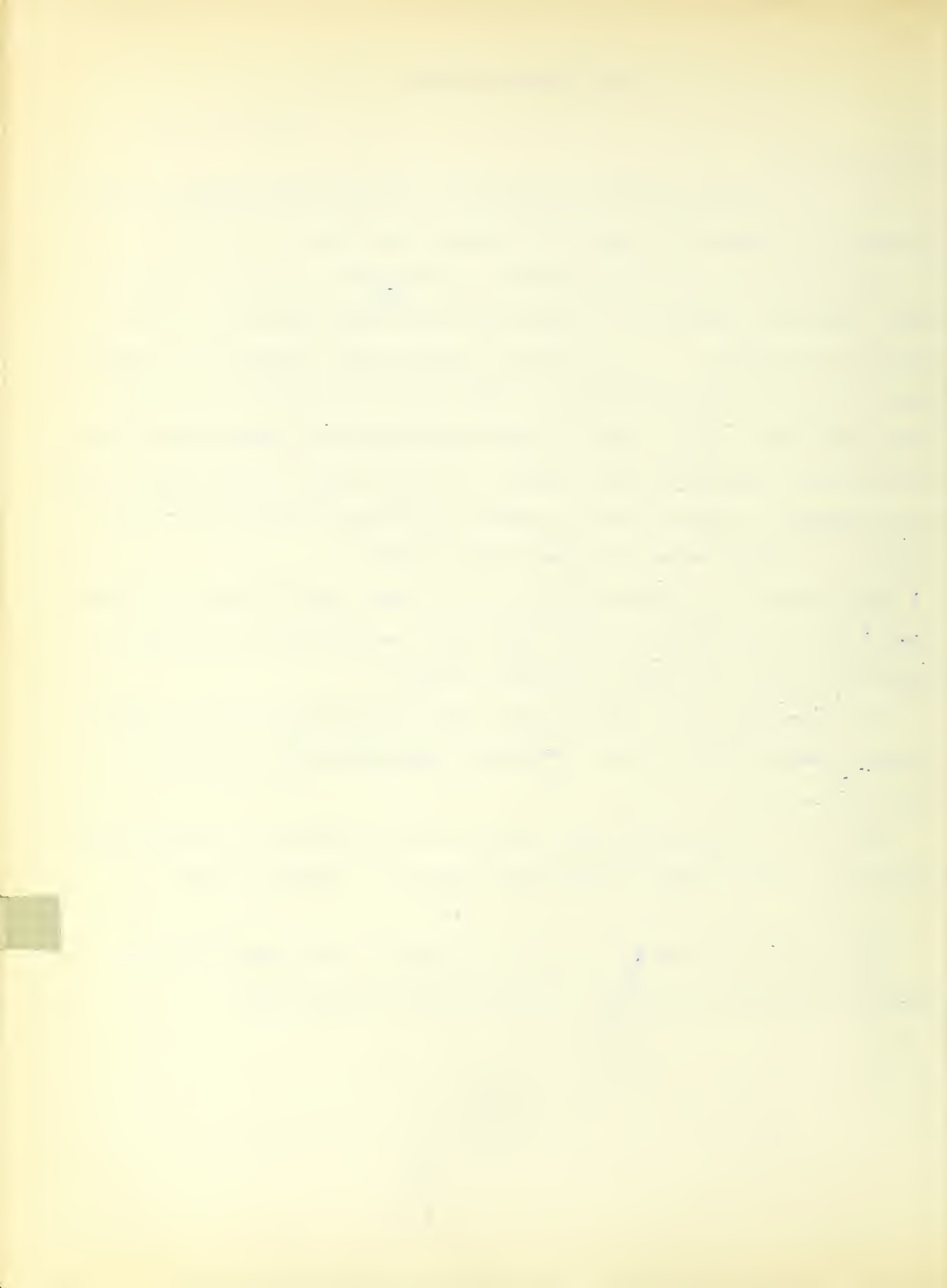
This afternoon, we are presenting Newton's Superintendent of Schools - - Harold B. Gores, a gentleman of established reputation with many accomplishments for civic and educational betterments - - - to his credit. The Newton School Committee was fortunate when it first secured the services of Mr. Gores in 1935, as a teacher at the Warren Junior High School. In July, 1939 our speaker was elected to the Administrative Staff, also Secretary of the Newton School Committee. In 1943 he became Assistant Superintendent and on September 1, 1949 Mr. Gores was selected by the School Committee for the high position - - - Superintendent of the Newton Public Schools.

His selection can be interpreted not only as an honor to him but also an effective demonstration of the sincere faith the Newton School Committee has in his capacity to maintain and improve the program of education in Newton.

We rejoice today, Bill, that we have Mr. Gores with us in person for the express purpose of bringing to the citizenry of Newton a comprehensive picture of Newton's educational program.

Bill, it is a distinct privilege to present to you and thru you to our WCRB radio audience - - - Superintendent of Newton Public Schools - - - Harold B. Gores.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour we will present - - - Mr. Philip S. Jamieson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Horace Cousens Industrial Fund.



NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HAROLD B. GORES, SUPERINTENDENT

December 5, 1949

May I take this opportunity, at the outset, to express, in behalf of the Newton Public Schools, our appreciation for the fine service being rendered to us by Station WCRB. Last year the station was kind enough to provide opportunities for twenty-eight weekly programs to be broadcast from our schools. Twenty-three schools had a chance to go on the air and, needless to say, broadcasting was a thrilling experience for the more than 800 pupils who participated. Our schools have come to look forward to the weekly broadcasts which emanate from the studio set up by WCRB, at Newton High School. As was stated in an article, "They Take to the Air," in our last Annual Report, "School radio programs that grow directly out of regular classroom experiences and employ pupil narrators, script writers, 'sound effects' men, and performers tend to make the process of education exciting and practical for pupils and teachers alike. Such programs also offer the adult listener more than a fair cross-section of what the schools and the children are accomplishing these days."

I am happy, personally, for this opportunity to acquaint our audience today with some of the major problems which face the schools. Inasmuch as Christmas, the season of compassion, is approaching, it might be well if I did not deliver a schoolman's speech, but instead devoted the time to answering questions which many persons ask about schools, such questions as: How fast are the schools growing? What about school buildings? Is the teacher shortage over? Will the high school have another Newton-Wyandotte Exchange this year? How do the Newton schools rate? What is this luminous ceiling at the Hyde School, of which I hear?

To consider these matters in the order named, first we may consider the increase in school enrolment. When Newton schools opened in September, 11,543 were enrolled in classes ranging from kindergarten through grade 14. The elementary school population showed the greatest increase: 340 pupils more than the year before. This increase was not unexpected. The number of children born to Newton parents had been rising steadily since 1939, when 862 children were born, to a peak of 1,644 births in 1947. The birth rate subsided somewhat in 1948. Nationally it dropped 6% from the all-time high of 1947; in Newton there were about 5% fewer children born in 1948. It is now too early to predict whether the 1949 birth rate will decrease substantially, but there is already clear evidence to show that the decline will be far less than the population experts had estimated.

Not until 1952 will the crest of the wave of "new" children reach the kindergarten. It is a reasonable certainty that in the early '50's the Newton school enrolment will increase by as much as 600 to 800 pupils a year.

Another factor concerning the growth of the school population is worth more than passing mention. Our city continues to grow not only from within itself but from "in-migration." The building of new homes and the subsequent arrival of the out-of-town moving vans place additional burdens on school facilities. As one would expect, new homes tend to be located in the wide-open spaces. Several major housing developments on the south side of the city, in districts which heretofore have not required school facilities, are now underway. For example, we are assured that what are now merely two paths through the woods will be by next summer two streets bordered by the individual homes of 124 families. A scant mile and a half away another housing project is expected to result in the construction of a hundred new homes in the coming year. These developments are quite aside from, but very similar to, the Newton Veterans Housing Development at Oak Hill Park, where we find 448 children already living in the 412 houses.

Newton has always been a growing city, but at no time in its recent history has its growth been so obvious and challenging. Newton has been long and widely known for its homes; today we reap their happy consequence -- children.

Naturally, school buildings must be adequate for the mounting number of pupils. As long ago as 1937, the School Committee and the Board of Aldermen, acting together, laid out a school building program for the city. Considerable headway was being made under that building program when the onset of World War II caused all school construction to cease. During the war the plan was revised under the general guidance of Dr. Homer W. Anderson, then Superintendent of Schools. Now that school building construction can be resumed, new schools are underway. The largest project to date is the Memorial School at Oak Hill Park, an elementary school of fifteen rooms, auditorium, and playroom. It is designed to serve a dual purpose: to house the educational program for children residing in the Veterans' Development and its immediate neighborhood, and to serve as a community center for the residents of the area. It is expected that the building will be occupied for school purposes in September, 1950.

The new Williams School in Auburndale is nearing completion and should be ready for occupancy by spring. This building not only replaces the obsolete Williams School, but will provide, through its eleven-room capacity, much needed relief for the neighboring Burr School.

The overcrowded Ward School, Chestnut Hill, will have increased capacity available at mid-winter, when the addition containing two classrooms will have been completed.

The new wing on the Franklin School, West Newton, may be occupied within the next sixty days. This addition consists of four classrooms and a playroom. The need for this addition is attested to by the fact that all classrooms will be occupied immediately by children who are now in overcrowded rooms.

Architects are at work on plans for replacement of the following schools: Claflin, Peirce, and Bowen. Architectural plans are available also for the construction of a new school in the vicinity of Baldbate Hill, not far from the New England Peabody Home for Crippled Children. At the moment, no decision has been made as to the date of construction of that building.

The city is taking steps also to enlarge the site and play area of the Warren Junior High School, and to acquire more land for the eventual erection of an elementary school on Beethoven Avenue, Waban. The latter school will be needed at some future date to supplement the Angier School.

Our elementary school population has increased by a thousand pupils in the last five years, and this growth is merely the beginning of what we may expect. Not until 1952 will the crest of the population wave be upon us, and not until 1957, at the earliest, will there be a slackening off of numbers. Providing school facilities during the next decade for a growing city will rank high among the major problems that our city, its citizens, and its government will have to solve.

[Even when we get the buildings, we have the problem of finding teachers to instruct our children. A teacher shortage still exists, and there is every likelihood that during the 1950's it will become more severe, particularly for the primary and intermediate grade level. The problem is national. Far too few teachers are being trained to keep pace with the number of children born who, five years later, start their education in school. Consequently, the day is not far distant when there will be a mad scramble for elementary school teachers. As long as many teachers and prospective candidates look upon Newton as a desirable system in which to teach, we may fare reasonably well; but we shall feel the effect of the scarcity of good teachers. There is no question but that somebody's children somewhere will have to go without competent teaching, for there just won't be enough trained teachers to go around.

Something must be done immediately to make teaching more attractive to capable young people when they are at the point of choosing a life work. For too long a period education has had what might be described as a bad press. Did you ever see a cartoon depicting a classroom in which the teacher was shown to be an attractive person, human and humane? Rather, it seems to be standard practice to portray the teacher as a gaunt stereotype-- what the youngsters call a "battle-axe." Furthermore, the economic plight of education has been given national publicity to the point where many thoughtful high school seniors say, "If that's what teaching is, I guess I'll be something else." This problem of securing competent teachers is critical, and it is national in scope. Locally, we are trying to do something about it through our Newton High School Chapter of the Future Teachers of America. Even the High School Women Teachers' Club and some of our P.T.A.'s are helping by making scholarships available to high school graduates who wish to prepare for teaching as a career. Until measures of this sort are taken, community by community, I see little hope of averting a critical shortage of trained and competent teachers.

A question of a different nature remains to be answered: Will the high school have another Newton-Wyandotte Exchange this year?

Newton High School will not have another exchange this year with the City of Wyandotte, Michigan; instead, arrangements have been made for exchange with Frederick, Maryland. The fortunate group of Newton High School pupils who will be making the one week's exchange visit has already been selected from a large number of applicants, and there is every reason to believe that this year's experience will be as satisfactory as was the splendid exchange with Wyandotte.

It is interesting to observe that a Massachusetts community, not far distant, has copied Newton's exchange of last year with an important variation: for the twenty-five students of that group a Grayhound bus has been chartered for one week. The bus will be their classroom on wheels, and will tour Maryland, Washington, D.C., and certain parts of the State of Virginia.

One of the questions frequently asked is how the Newton schools rate. Sometime ago Look magazine displayed "An Honor Roll of American Public Schools --100 of America's Best Schools as Polled by State Superintendents and Other Prominent Educators in the United States." The list included thirty city school systems, twenty county and rural schools, twenty-five high schools, fifteen junior colleges, and ten state universities. Springfield and Newton were the only two New England school systems named; Newton's was the only New England high school listed.

But the excellence of a school system cannot be determined so easily as that article would seem to indicate. Actually there is no national, state, or county rating for school systems, nor has there ever been one. However, although there is no Dun and Bradstreet for education, almost everyone feels he can decide which community has good schools. In general, such an opinion is based on a single factor, the proportion of college preparatory pupils who are admitted to college and are successful there. While this factor is very important, schools should be judged on how well they serve every child, regardless of his vocational objectives.

In any evaluation of a community's educational program, the school committee and the school staff are faced with several pertinent questions:

1. Is administrative leadership professional and non-political?
2. Is teaching ability given proper recognition and encouragement?
3. Does the program of education keep abreast of the best in educational research?

4. Are graduates who do not go to college prepared for serviceable employment in business and industry?
5. Are sufficient funds provided so that competent teachers and adequate materials can be procured?
6. Are citizens, pupils, and school personnel determined to make the schools better?

If we can answer these questions in the affirmative, we can only conclude that we have a school system which is making progress. School systems which are steadily moving forward are the only ones deserving of high rank.

Questions about the luminous ceiling at the Hyde School are asked frequently of late, especially since a picture of the room appeared in the local press and an article about M.I.T.'s luminous ceiling was carried in the Wall Street Journal.

For the past several years Professor Parry Moon of M.I.T. and Professor Domina Spencer of Brown University have conducted experiments to determine the most desirable type of lighting for school classrooms. This research has culminated in the so-called "luminous ceiling." As the name implies, fluorescent lights are hung in the ceiling of a room, and below them is suspended a complete plastic ceiling. The plastic is translucent and sheds the light evenly upon the desks below.

A room in the Hyde School was chosen for a trial installation. Now, it is not our thought that the luminous ceiling will be practicable for installation in school buildings already in use. However, if the experiment shows this type of lighting to be superior, it may well be used for new construction, inasmuch as the cost of installing the plastic ceiling is substantially less than the cost of the customary plaster ceiling. The outcome of the experiment is being carefully watched, not only by the Newton Public Buildings Department, but by such school systems as Worcester and Providence.

It is always a pleasure to speak on educational matters. I hope that my answers to your questions have given the WCRB audience and the citizens of Newton a clearer picture of some of the problems and activities with which the Newton Public Schools are concerned.

CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
MR. PHILIP S. JAMIESON
CHAIRMAN

THE HORACE COUSENS INDUSTRIAL FUND

INTRODUCTION BY
HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

December 12, 1949

Thank you, Bill, and Hello again!

Yes, this is the 18th Broadcast in this Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint our citizens with various City Government Operations.

This afternoon we are presenting Mr. Philip S. Jamieson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Horace Cousens Industrial Fund.

Mr. Jamieson, a resident of the City of Newton for forty-nine years, is a graduate of Newton High School and Amherst College. The name of Jamieson is one family name we recognize in our community which has carried the torch most actively not only in the affairs of the City but likewise for many worthy and noble projects pertaining to the needs of this community.

Mr. Jamieson, having served for six years as a member of the Board of Aldermen, is a Director of the Newton-Wellesley Hospital, Trustee of the Newton Cemetery Corporation, Director of the Newton National Bank, a Past Chairman of a Salvation Army Drive for funds in Newton and Director of the Boston Salvation Army.

It is fitting and in keeping with life-long interests that our speaker was chosen by Mayor Oddard to serve as Trustee and later as Chairman of a Trust Fund which is set up in part to aid the less fortunate in our community. Today, Mr. Jamieson has a most interesting and informative message for the citizens of Newton pertaining to the functions of The Horace Cousens Industrial Fund. The two Trustee Associates of Mr. Jamieson are Mr. James A. Waters and Mr. Thomas V. Cleveland, all of whom serve without compensation and who also take a most active interest in the affairs of our City.

Bill, it is a distinct privilege for me to present to you and thru you, to our WCRB radio audience - - - Mr. Philip S. Jamieson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Horace Cousens Industrial Fund. Mr. Jamieson, Bill.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour we will present Mr. Roy V. Collins, Chairman of the Licensing Board, who has just dropped in to say "Hello". I am pleased to present to you Mr. Roy V. Collins.

THE HORACE COUSENS INDUSTRIAL FUND
MR. PHILIP S. JAMIESON, CHAIRMAN

Horace Cousens, a resident of Newton, died in Newton Centre on March 13th, 1901. His will was made a half a century ago in which he left to the City of Newton in trust the residue and remaining part of all the property in his estate to be consolidated into a fund to be known as the Horace Cousens Industrial Fund. From this fund he directed that loans shall be made to the industrious men and women of small means, who are residents of the City of Newton, to assist them in procuring homesteads for their families. His will directed that sums of money be loaned to such applicants as the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of Newton shall deem deserving and entitled to receive under provisions of this will. He further directed that the rate of interest charged on such loans should be fixed at three-fourths part of the current rate of interest at the time the loan was made; the loans to be secured by a first mortgage on improved real estate, and the amount loaned on any estate shall not exceed three-fourths of the latest tax valuation.

Mr. Cousens further directed that the income from loans, after deducting the proper charges tending to the care of investment of the fund, shall be added to the principal of said fund, which shall keep on increasing until the amount accumulated to the sum of \$1,000,000.

QUESTION: What was the amount actually left the City and when did the City accept this trust fund?

ANSWER: I was just coming to that. There are several steps that the City Government has to go through before accepting a trust of this kind.

Late in 1930 the executors of Mr. Cousens' will notified the City that they were ready to turn over the residue of the estate in accordance with the will. Honorable Sinclair Weeks was Mayor at the time and on December 15, 1930, Mayor Weeks made a recommendation the Board of Aldermen recommending the acceptance of the Horace Cousens' bequest.

At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen on December 15, 1930 they voted to accept the bequest and same to be managed as may be hereafter ordained by the Board of Aldermen. I happened to be a member of the Board of Aldermen at that time, and remember quite well when this was done. The executors then turned over to the City in various amounts from April to August 1931 a total of \$556,850. This was the start of the Horace Cousens Industrial Fund.

The trust being accepted and an ordinance adopted, which provided that three trustees be appointed by the Mayor, these trustees to serve without compensation and appointment should be for life, subject to removal by the Mayor by reason of disability, removal from the City, or other such causes. Mayor Weeks then appointed Dr. John A. Cousens, Judge Elias B. Bishop, and Albert T. Stuart, trustees. The first meeting was held in the Mayor's office in the old City Hall in West Newton on July 15th, 1931. Those present were the Mayor, City Solicitor Joseph W. Bartlett, Judge Bishop and Mr. Stuart. Dr. Cousens was unable to be present and he was represented by proxy given to Judge Bishop. Dr. Cousens was elected Chairman and Mr. Stuart Secretary. Mr. Stuart took a very active part in the early years of the Fund and served faithfully for over ten years when he was forced to resign due to pressure of war work. All meetings of the trustees are now held in City Hall. Miss Mary M. Mulligan has been the trustees' Secretary for over sixteen years. She interviews applicants, furnishes information regarding loans and other matters pertaining to the fund, she keeps records, prepares the recommendations and dockets for the Trustees' meetings, and is of great assistance to the trustees.

QUESTION: Since the fund was created, how many mortgages have the trustees granted to date, and have there been many foreclosures?

ANSWER: That is an interesting question which I thought you would probably ask, so I looked up and found that the trustees had held 411 meetings and granted 608 mortgages to date; of these 273 have been paid off, 10 foreclosed, leaving at the present time 325 mortgages.

QUESTION: Is there any limit as to the amount of a loan that can be secured and can anyone get these loans?

ANSWER: In accordance with the will, these loans were to be made only to residents of Newton, men and women of small means. Today our funds are all invested and it looks as if we would have to start a waiting list for a Cousens Fund Loan. The question as to the determining of what constitutes people of small means, that is a rather difficult question for us as we have to take into consideration the size of the family, applicant's income and other obligations, type of house, and so forth. We feel that mortgages a round \$6,000 should be about the top figure, although circumstances might warrant slightly higher in some cases.

QUESTION: I seem to have heard it said that these loans were primarily for city employees. Is that true?

ANSWER: Most decidedly not. While we do have many city employees on our list, the fund is available to all deserving residents of Newton who come under the intent of the will.

QUESTION: Are regular payments to reduce the loan required?

ANSWER: Yes, this is a requirement in accordance with the will which says these loans are to assist Newton residents in paying for their homesteads so regular principal payments are made reducing the loan each year.

To get back to the trustees, Dr. John A. Cousens served until June, 1932 and resigned when Mr. Arthur C. Dunmore was appointed and elected Chairman at a meeting held on June 30, 1932. Judge Bishop retired as trustee in 1933 and Mayor Weeks appointed Mr. Harry W. Fitts on June 26, 1933. Mr. Fitts died on June 19, 1940 and I was appointed a trustee on October 7, 1940 to fill his place by Mayor Paul M. Goddard. Mr. Albert T. Stuart, who was one of the original trustees and had been Secretary from the time of his appointment, resigned on December 6, 1941 and Mayor Goddard appointed Mr. James A. Waters on December 17, 1941 to fill Mr. Stuart's place. Due to removal from the City, Mr. Dunmore was obliged to resign on July 31, 1942, and I was elected Chairman of the Trustees at the August 1st meeting, and Mayor Goddard appointed Mr. Thomas V. Cleveland trustee on October 1, 1942. Mr. Cleveland was elected Secretary November 25, 1942.

On February 28, 1947 the Fund had reached \$1,000,000, showing an average yearly increase in the fund of approximately \$28,744 and in accordance with Mr. Cousens' will, the million dollar fund should be kept invested and the income from said fund to be distributed and given to the deserving poor of Newton who are not inmates of the Alms House. It then became necessary to make some revision in the original ordinance under which the trust had been operated. Section 316 of the City Ordinances was added to the original ordinance providing

that the income should be so distributed by the trustees under such rules and regulations as they may from time to time adopt without action or restraint or control on the part of the Mayor or Board of Aldermen.

QUESTION: These seem to be very broad powers granted to the trustees. Do I understand that the Board of Aldermen have to pass on the distribution of the income?

ANSWER: No, this is not so as it is with the mortgages and other investments of the principal of the fund. The trustees have full authority to exercise and carry out the direction of the testator as the income now that the fund has reached the sum of \$1,000,000. The new ordinance authorizes the City Treasurer to recognize and pay out from said income in accordance with the written orders bearing the signatures of two of the trustees. This income fund is now known as the Cousens Benevolent Fund and payments are made from it after thorough investigation by the trustees or by other social agencies or groups in the city. Grants from this fund have been made possible to worthy people to have medical care, care that otherwise they could not afford. It has furnished food, clothing, medical and dental care, and care in hospitals for those that could otherwise not afford it.

QUESTION: It might be interesting to know something about Mr. Horace Cousens who made this unique fund available to Newton citizens.

ANSWER: Mr. Cousens was born in Lyman, Maine in 1818. He spent his early life there and about 1850 he came to Massachusetts and established a coal business near the Cottage Farm Bridge, and he chose Newton Centre as his home. We have no records as to whether he ever was interested in public office, but he was greatly interested in the community in which he lived. He was also interested in the Newton Hospital and remembered the hospital in his will. He died in Newton Centre at the age of 83.

His nephew, John A., who became one of the first trustees, was a resident of Newton and was President of Tufts College from June 8, 1920 to the time of his death on July 2, 1937. The records show that Horace Cousens' will was drawn up by Judge Bishop and it was quite fitting that he was one of the first trustees.

So, the name of Horace Cousens will go down for generations and his long-sightedness will be of great benefit to Newton citizens in acquiring their homes as will the Benevolent Fund to those in need of assistance.

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CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
INTRODUCTION OF
MR. ROY V. COLLINS, CHAIRMAN
NEWTON LICENSE COMMISSION
BY
HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

December 19, 1949

Greetings, Bill:

Yes, Monday has rolled around and this is the 19th Broadcast, in this Series of Informational Programs, designed to acquaint our citizens with various City Government Operations.

This afternoon, we are presenting Mr. Roy V. Collins, Chairman, of the Newton License Commission.

Fortunately, for Newton, Mr. Collins has been a resident of the City for over 36 years. Also, you'll be interested to know at the age of 22 Mr. Collins invented the electric track switch used by motormen to throw switches automatically. Other inventions credited to our speaker include tower control and interlocking signal devices---each a marvel of mechanical and electrical ingenuity. The American Electric Railway Association has adopted many of Mr. Collins' specifications as standard requirements. Several countries of Europe have likewise adopted many of his devices.

Mr. Collins was elected to the Newton Board of Aldermen in November 1921. He served for 13 years---the last five as President of the Board.

Obviously, Mr. Collins interest, hard work and accomplishments in civic affairs shaped a course equally as reputable as his electrical inventions.

Hon. Paul M. Goddard appointed Mr. Collins to the License Commission in 1941, and soon thereafter he was appointed Chairman of the Commission. The two associates of Mr. Collins, all of whom serve without compensation, are Mr. Frederick Fessenden and Mr. David Greer---each one well known for his interest and accomplishments in civic and governmental affairs.

Today, Mr. Collins, in person will present a most interesting story as he acquaints the citizenry of Newton with the origin, personnel, duties and activities of the License Commission.

Bill, I have the honor of presenting to you---Mr. Roy V. Collins, Chairman of Newton's License Commission.

Our next broadcast will take place on Monday, January 9th at the same hour, at which time we will present Mr. John W. Kellar, Chairman of the Newton Planning Board.

WCRB RADIO BROADCAST -- DECEMBER 19, 1949

MR. ROY V. COLLINS, CHAIRMAN
NEWTON LICENSE COMMISSION

Probably it would be best in telling of the License Commission to cover the description in four parts, namely,

1. The origin and life of the License Commission
2. The personnel of the Commission
3. The duties and activities of the Commission.
4. The expenses and resources of the Commission.

Upon the repeal of the eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, (the Prohibition Amendment), the Massachusetts Legislature adopted Chapter 120, an Act authorizing and Regulating the Manufacture, Transportation and Sale of Wines and Malt Beverages. in the year 1933. This Act permitted the sale of beverages with an alcoholic content of 3.2 per cent, light wines and beer, for sale in restaurants, clubs and retail stores. On April 18, 1933, Mayor Sinclair Weeks, under the provisions of Chapter 120, Acts & Resolves of 1933, decided that license for the sale of wine and malt beverages shall be given in the City of Newton, and appointed a Licensing Commission consisting of William T. Glidden, Jr., of West Newton, Chairman Bernard Gorfinkle of Chestnut Hill, and A. Leslie Moriarty of West Newton.

The first meeting of the newly formed Commission was held on April 18, 1933, and it was voted that temporary licenses be issued, expiring June 30, 1933, to Clubs, Restaurants and Retailers. Temporary licenses were issued on April 21, 1933 and between that date and May 3, sixty-seven (67) licenses for the sale of 3.2 per cent wine and malt beverages were issued to restaurants and retailers, with a charge of Fifty (50.) Dollars for each license.

On June 13, 1933, a special election was held to determine whether or not the citizens of Newton were in favor of continuing the sale of 3.2 per cent wines and malt beverages. The vote was in favor. Soon after this election and up to October 23, 1933 sixty-four (64) licenses were issued consisting of 29 retail store licenses, 28 restaurants, 6 club, and 1 fraternal club license.

In order to give the voters of the City of Newton a full and fair opportunity to express their views on the sale of alcoholic beverages of all kinds in the City of Newton, Mayor Weeks, acting under the provisions of Section 1 of Chapter 373, Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts 1933, caused to be placed on the official ballot for the regular municipal election, December 12, 1933, the following questions; in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of Chapter 373.

SECTION 1. If the mayor of a city which holds its annual or biennial municipal election at any time hereafter in the current year so orders, there shall be placed on the official ballot to be used at such election the following questions:-

1. Shall licenses be granted in this city for the sale therein of all alcoholic beverages (whiskey, rum, gin, malt beverages, wines and all other alcoholic beverages)?

YES

NO

2. Shall licenses be granted in this city for the sale therein of wines and malt beverages (wines and beer, ale and all other malt beverages)?

YES

NO

The following directions shall also be placed on said ballot immediately above the foregoing questions:-

To obtain a full expression of opinion, voters should vote on both of the following questions:

- (a) If a voter desires to permit the sale of any and all alcoholic beverages in this city, he will vote "YES" on both questions.
- (b) If he desires to permit the sale of wines and malt beverages only herein, he will vote "NO" on question 1 and "YES" on question 2.
- (c) If he desires to prohibit the sale of any and all alcoholic beverages herein, he will vote "NO" on both questions.

The citizens of Newton voted in favor of both questions which permitted the sale of all kinds of alcoholic beverages in restaurants, clubs, and retail stores, at the discretion of the license Commission. This was a record, for it was the first time in NINETY YEARS that the City voted for license. Therefore, under the provisions of Chapter 376, Section 4, Mayor Weeks appointed a License Commission consisting of three members, one of whom was appointed Chairman. On December 30, 1933, the first "full strength" liquor licenses were issued and up to December 31, 1933, fifty-five (55) licenses were issued. However, the citizens of Newton did not long approve the sale of all alcoholic beverages licenses for, while licenses for wine and malt beverages were continued, yet in 1936, 38, and 40, licenses for the sale of all kinds of alcoholic beverages were voted out. In 1942, licenses for the sale of all kinds of alcoholic beverages were again voted in and have been in every state election since that time.

BILL SHERMAN: I think the citizens of Newton would be interested to know something about who has served on the Commission, so will you tell us something about the personnel?

MR. COLLINS: The Commission consists of an executive secretary and three commissioners, each having been appointed by the Mayor for six years. Miss Mary Mulligan has been the executive secretary during the entire existence of the Newton License Commission. The first Commissioners were William T. Glidden, Jr., Chairman, Bernard L. Gorfinkle, and A. Leslie Moriarty. Mr. Glidden served from 1933 until 1941 when he resigned. Mr. Gorfinkle resigned in 1934, and Mr. Moriarty served until 1945. Upon the resignation of Mr. Gorfinkle, Hon. John V. Spalding, Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Court was appointed. Upon the resignation of Commissioner Glidden in 1941, Mayor Paul M. Goddard appointed Roy V. Collins to take his place, and Judge Spalding was appointed Chairman. Upon being appointed judge, Hon. John V. Spalding resigned on May 5, 1942 and Neil Leonard, Esq. was appointed in his place, and I was appointed Chairman. Upon the retirement of Mr. Moriarty in 1945, Frederick J. Fessenden, Jr., was appointed in his place by Mayor Goddard. Commissioner Leonard resigned in 1945 and on October 16, 1945 Mayor Goddard appointed Carl F. Schipper, Esq. to take his place. Commissioner Schipper resigned in 1948 and on June 15, 1948, Mayor Theodore R. Lockwood appointed Matt B. Jones, Jr., to take his place. In 1949 Commissioner Jones resigned and on May 13, 1949, Mayor Lockwood appointed David Greer, Esq. to take his place. The Commission now consists of Roy V. Collins, Chairman, Frederick J. Fessenden, Jr., and David Greer, Esq. Miss Mulligan is a full time civil service employee and receives a regular salary, but the License Commissioners, like many other Newton public officials, serve without compensation merely to render public service. In addition to the executive secretary and the three commissioners, the Commission delegates its authority to a number of police officers.

BILL SHERMAN: Briefly, what are the duties and activities of the License Commission?

MR. COLLINS: The License Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor but are State officials and, while appointed by the Mayor, cannot be removed by him except under certain conditions. A commissioner can be removed only under charges. These charges are heard by the Mayor and the Mayor can render his decision in accordance with the evidence produced. This decision can be appealed to the courts. The Commission has the issuing of all common victualler licenses and all liquor licenses. Licenses for liquor to be consumed on the premises can only be issued to those having common victualler licenses. The Commission has the right to issue local regulations for the City of Newton and have issued the ones they deem necessary for our type of city. They have the right to enter all licensed premises and inspect all parts of the same at any time. The police who have been given the authority by us can do the same and they inspect all licensed premises and report to the Commission on the same monthly. In addition, the Commissioners make several inspections each year. In cases of violations of the law or our regulations, upon complaint, the commission gives the licensee a hearing where legal evidence must be produced. The Commission determines whether or not the charge is sustained and if it is, the Commission determines the punishment which usually consists of suspension of the license for a period of time. In some cases the licenses have been revoked. The Commission's decision on liquor licenses can be appealed to the State Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, while our action on common victualler licenses can only be appealed to the courts, which is a difficult matter.

BILL SHERMAN: In these times of high taxes, the citizens are particularly interested in finances. Is your Commission insofar as finances are concerned, an asset or a liability to the city?

MR. COLLINS: The only sums paid out for our Commission, are the secretary's salary and small items such as printing and office supplies.

At the present time the fees for licenses are as follows:

Package Store, All kinds of Alcoholic Beverages	\$1000.
Package Store, Wine and Malt	300.
Druggist, All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages	300.
Restaurant, All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages	800.
Restaurant, Wine and Malt	300.
Clubs, All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages	500.

and the types of licenses in the City today consist of:-

- 16 package store, all kinds of alcoholic beverages
- 16 wine and malt package stores
- 17 restaurants, all kinds of alcoholic beverages
- 12 restaurants, wine and malt beverages
- 4 golf clubs
- 1 fraternal club
- 1 seasonal malt
- 6 druggist, all kinds of alcoholic beverages
- 84 common victuallers

In 1948 our revenue was \$42,956, and the total revenue collected to date by this Commission is approximately \$606,684.75, so it can be sure that this department is financially a material asset each year to the City.

BILL SHERMAN: As Newton has only allowed liquor licenses in comparatively recent years, can you tell us whether or not the citizens, as a whole, are satisfied with the operation of these licenses and whether or not the liquor licensed establishments have been law abiding?

MR. COLLINS: The citizens, as a whole, we believe, are satisfied with the operation of these licenses which is shown by the fact that they continue to vote them in at the elections semi-annually. In order to keep these establishments of the proper kind, we investigate most carefully the history of applicants and where their past records have been unsatisfactory, we refuse these licenses, and this has occurred in many instances. The type of license which we believe would be the least desirable is the tavern license for this type is for purely a liquor drinking establishment for men only, and no common victualler license is required. In other words, it is practically an old fashioned saloon. Taverns have never been allowed in the City.

As a whole, the establishments having liquor licenses have been a law abiding group. During the eight and one-half years that I have been a member of the Newton License Commission, there has been but one instance of an infraction of the law by any of the package stores. Among the restaurants having liquor licenses, there have been about three or four violations a year and these are confined to a very few restaurants, some of them having had more than one violation through the years. Where violations of the law occur repeatedly, the Board, after hearing, revokes the license, and this has occurred in two instances since I have been a member of the Commission.

Some of our citizens do not understand that we are unable to punish a license holder unless we have legal evidence of a violation of the law or of our regulations. In other words, it is necessary that a person who has actually witnessed the violation appear at the hearing and give testimony of the violation. The accused has a right to be represented by counsel, and the hearing is conducted similar to court procedure. Fairly frequently, a citizen will report that he saw an intoxicated person coming out of a licensed establishment and feels there is evidence of law violation by that establishment, as it is against the law to sell liquor to an intoxicated person. However, this is not evidence of a violation of the law. In many instances, the intoxicated one enters and is ejected by the proprietor, which is proper. Also, to maintain the best traditions of our City, we do not allow any liquor to be sold in any licensed establishment, including restaurants, on Sundays, and by druggists only on doctors' prescription.

Finally in justice to the restaurants having alcoholic beverage licenses, I would say that the great majority of them have never been guilty of violating the law or any of our regulations.

CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION OF

JOHN W. KELLAR

CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING BOARD

JANUARY 9, 1950

Good afternoon, Bill: -

Yes, we resume our series of Informational Programs this afternoon with this, the 20th Broadcast - - wherein we acquaint the Newton citizenry with various operations of Departments and Boards of the City Government.

This afternoon, we are presenting Mr. John W. Kellar, Chairman of the Newton Planning Board. Mr. Kellar was born in Newton and has always resided in this City, except for War years. He graduated from Newton Schools, and M. I. T. in the Class of 1922. A veteran of World War I - - - a member of American Legion Post No. 48, Mr. Kellar served the Federal Government during World War II in Washington and Boston. He now serves as a Trustee of the West Newton Savings Bank - - - He is also a Director of the Newton National Bank. He has three children, all educated in Newton. His business is General Building and Contracting.

Today, Mr. Kellar, in person, will illustrate many matters evolving around the operations of the Newton Long-Range Planning Board designed to assist in making Newton the finest city of its class in the country.

BILL - - - Here's John W. Kellar.

Our next broadcast, Bill, Monday, January 16th at the same hour, we will present Mr. George B. Rogers, Superintendent of the Forestry Division of the Newton Street Department.

CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

JOHN W. KELLAR

CHAIRMAN

OPERATION OF THE PLANNING BOARD

JANUARY 9, 1950

INTRODUCTION - John W. Kellar, Chariman of Planning Board, City of Newton

BILL SHERMAN: Mr. Kellar, Planning Boards are new in City Management affairs are they not?

MR. KELLAR: My answer to that would be "No" in one respect and "Yes" in another. Planning Board duties and functions have been undertaken by Town and City fathers for many generations in their endeavor to plan for the public health, development of their town, village or municipality and for financing the cost of such programs. This held true in Newton as well as elsewhere.

Legally, the Planning Board was created as such in Newton on December 3, 1913, by an order passed by the Board of Aldermen under General Laws Chapter 41, Sections 70, 71 and 72. Its duties under this authority were limited to making careful studies of the resources, possibilities and needs of the City particularly with reference to conditions injurious to the public health or otherwise in and about rented dwellings; to making plans for the development of the municipality, with special reference to proper housing of its inhabitants.

On May 20, 1925, the Board of Aldermen accepted the Board of Survey Act, General Laws Chapter 41, which under certain sections enabled the Planning Board upon vote of the Board of Aldermen to act as Board of Survey. Under certain sections of Chapter 211 of the Acts of 1936 entitled "Improved Methods of Municipal Planning" the Planning Board acting as a Board of Survey passes upon the opening of private ways for public use approving, modifying and approving or disapproving the layout of such ways as to location, alignment of grade and drainage and other factors pertinent to the development of the subdivision.

On March 6, 1947, the Planning Board recommended and the Board of Aldermen on August 18 amended certain paragraphs of Section 170, Chapter 22, of the Revised Ordinances of 1939 so that all streets hereafter constructed on private lands by the owners thereof shall be constructed only under the supervision of the City Engineer and according to strict specifications, performance bonds are also required and no building permits are issued until all requirements are satisfied. This will in time save the City a great deal of money for road construction and at the same time insure better roads or streets for new developments.

The Planning Board has held many hearings and will hold many more in the future on petitions for the development of undeveloped areas within the City. This has been brought about by the rapid growth of the City both in population and the accompanying need for more dwellings.

BILL SHERMAN: Are the members of the Planning Board elected or appointed, Mr. Kellar?

MR. KELLAR: The members are appointed. The Planning Board consists of seven members. The City Engineer and Street Commissioner are members of the Board ex-officio. Upon expiration of term of office of any appointed member, his successor is appointed for the term of three years from the date of his appointment. The members of the Board serve without compensation.

The present members are: Thomas R. King, Certified Public Accountant
William J. Payne, Banker
Theodore H. Oakey, Insurance
Stanley C. Lovell, Industrial Chemist
John W. Kellar, Contractor, Chairman
Ashley Q. Robinson, City Engineer
Harold F. Young, Street Commissioner

BILL SHERMAN: Does the Planning Board, Mr. Kellar, have other duties beyond acting as Board of Survey on matters pertaining to opening of private ways and subdivisions?

MR. KELLAR: Yes, Mr. Sherman. The Board over a period of years has developed studies for physical improvements of the City and made many recommendations to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen which have been carried into effect. Many others have not been carried out, however, primarily because of the capital expenditures required but it is hoped that the more important ones will be in the near future; for example, the modernization of Newton Corner which has been under consideration for a number of years and the acquiring of tracts of land surrounding the Newton City Hall for the development of a Civic Centre. Such a centre to consist of a building to be used by the public community services, that is, the Welfare, Health and Veterans' Services Departments; another building to be constructed for the use of the general offices maintained by the School Department; a third building is highly desirable for housing the general community services, that is, among others, the Community Chest, Community Council, Boy Scouts, District Nursing, Catholic Welfare, Family Service Bureau, etc. The advantage of housing these services in the same building is obvious inasmuch as many of them co-operate and work together for the good of the city. Such planning, however, as I said before, requires large capital expenditures and in view of the present capital expenditure programs and its entailed borrowing must be relegated to the future.

Another very important function of the Planning Board is the work in connection with zoning. The zoning ordinance regulates the construction of buildings and structures and the use of buildings, structures and land in the City of Newton and divides the City into districts. The districts are seven in number, that is, seven classes, namely: Single Residence A District, B district, C district, Private, General, Business and Manufacturing. The Board of Aldermen may, from time to time, change the ordinance by amendment, addition or repeal, but no ordinance modifying the district boundary do established or changing the regulation or restrictions to be enforced shall be adopted until after the Planning Board has held public hearing, after due notice given, and a final report submitted with recommendations to the Board of Aldermen. A two-thirds vote of the Board of Aldermen is required to make the change.

Due to the rapid growth of the City the Planning Board has held many public hearings on proposed changes in the zoning of the City; in fact so many petitions have been received and the physical development of the City has been so rapid that the Planning Board recommended to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that a re-study be made of the entire zoning ordinance and zoning classification of the City. The recommendation was accepted last fall with the result that Professor Adams of M. I. T. and his associates have been retained by the City to make such a study. This study has been going on for approximately five months and will shortly culminate in a public hearing on the proposed changes and subsequent action by the Board of Aldermen. The proposed changes should bring about needed improvements in the ordinance and physical layout of the City for future growth.

I would like to speak on one more very important function of the Planning Board, Mr. Sherman, that is its function as the Long Range Planning Commission. The duties are primarily one of the planning and forecasting the needs of the several departments of the City Government in the nature of capital expenditures over five year periods. The first report and recommendation for capital expenditures was presented to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen in April, 1948, covering the years 1948 to 1952 with the result that the State Legislature passed a bill allowing the City of Newton to borrow up to five million dollars outside of the debt limit for capital outlay. Of this borrowing varying sums are allocated to the several departments of the City to be spent over a period of five years. For example, the School Department will spend approximately three million two hundred thousand dollars for new schools and alterations to old which will go a long way towards alleviating the crowded conditions in some of the schools and at the same time take care of the increasing enrollment in certain sections of the City. The amount allocated to the Street and Sewer Department will result in badly needed street improvements and sewage disposal. Added recreational facilities are planned through the Recreation Department as well as several New Fire Stations, a new Police garage additional Library facilities and many other projects.

In order to arrive at a recommendation to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen on capital expenditures over a long period, it is necessary to make a very detailed study, consuming many months, of a financial history of the City covering a number of years, the growth in population, the increase in school population, the condition of the streets and sewage disposal, the tax rate, and other factors. With this data worked out in statistical form, each department reported to the Planning Board what it felt was its needs in the way of capital expenditures over the next five years and the reason thereof. With this information it was then necessary to forecast the growth of the City in matters such as income from all sources, population growth, increased building, increased school enrollment, increased costs and many other factors. With all available information at hand it was necessary to join the past with the future and arrive at a plan of capital expenditures for the next five years that would be within the capacity of the City to pay and yet not increase the tax rate to a large degree.

I think it might be of interest to the listeners to learn in a more detailed account what the approximate allocations are for the several departments of the City for the six year period 1948 to 1953 bearing in mind that these are capital expenditures are not general costs of maintaining and managing City affairs. The sum which I will mention directly are funds received primarily from borrowing within the debt limit of the City and by borrowing outside the debt limit of the City through special legislation. The approximate total amounts to about ten million dollars. Of that sum the Street Department will have at its command approximately two million nine hundred thousand dollars; sewer extensions, about one million four hundred thousand dollars; Veterans' housing, one million four hundred thousand dollars; Police Department garage, fifty thousand dollars; Fire Department for new stations and renovation of old, approximately five hundred sixty-eight thousand dollars; the Library Department, approximately one hundred seventy thousand dollars; Recreation Department, three hundred twelve thousand dollars; School Department, three million two hundred thousand dollars.

It is hoped in all cases except the School Department to equalize the spending by each department each year over the period of six years. In the case of the School Department, it is deemed advisable to start all projects, for which alloc-

ations have been made, before 1951 in order that advantage may be taken of possible State aid under Chapter 645, Acts of 1948, which terminates that year. At least the City will be in a position to receive such aid if the City School Building Program falls within the legal definition of the Act.

It is believed by the Planning Board, Mr. Sherman, that the Long Range Plan as briefly outlined will be of great benefit to the City even though the cost may seem staggering.

BILL SHERMAN: Mr. Kellar, I have heard it said several times that the Planning Board is the authority to see and that its decision is final in matters of zoning, planning etc. Is that correct?

MR. KELLAR: No, that is not correct. The Planning Board as I said before is an appointed body and its function is one primarily of studying problems that arise in matters of subdivisions, zoning and long range planning and, after a decision is reached in its own body, of recommending to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen certain actions to be taken. The final decision, therefore, rests with the Mayor and Board of Aldermen in all cases.

In closing, I would like to point out that all recommendations by the Planning Board to the proper authorities are based on the question "What is best or most beneficial for the City of Newton as a whole?" We look at all matters objectively and in no other way can we hope that our actions or recommendations will result in a better Newton and a better place to live in.

CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION OF

MR. JOHN L. FOLEY - DIV. SUPT.

NEWTON STREET DEPARTMENT

BY

HAROLD T. PILSBURY - DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

JANUARY 16, 1950

Good afternoon, Bill:

Yes, this is the 21st broadcast in the Series of Informational Programs wherein we acquaint the Newton citizenry with various operations of the City government.

This afternoon we are presenting Mr. John L. Foley, Superintendent of the Sanitation Division. Mr. Foley, a life-long resident of Newton, came with the City of Newton in May, 1926. In May, 1936 he was appointed Highway Foreman - in June, 1943 he was placed in charge, as Acting Division Foreman of the Sanitation Division, and on July 5, 1948 Mr. Foley was appointed permanently as Division Superintendent.

Today, Mr. Foley, in person will present a graphic picture of a City service which affects both the health and safety of the citizenry - - a service, too, that is administered efficiently and economically, particularly when our citizens adhere to the regulations which govern their weekly sanitation service.

Bill, I am privileged to present to you and through you to our unseen audience, John L. Foley, Division Superintendent of the Newton Street Department.

Next week, Bill, we will present Carl C. Mullen, Commissioner of the Veterans' Housing Department.



W. C. R. B. RADIO BROADCAST - JANUARY 16, 1950

MR. JOHN L. FOLEY - DIV. SUPT.

NEWTON STREET DEPT.

MR. FOLEY: The opportunity to talk to the citizens of Newton, regarding the collection of refuse is appreciated, for this is a service which affects both public health and public safety. An accumulation of waste materials can become either unsanitary or a definite fire menace. The Collection and disposal of such material in a City of 84,000 persons located on 300 miles of streets presents a problem in which the cooperation of our citizens can materially affect the costs of the service as well as its efficiency.

Under the supervision of the Division Supt. assisted by a Foreman-Inspector, 86 men are employed weekly on the work, and consists of 28 Truck drivers, 42 collectors, 12 incinerator employees and 4 dump employees. Two trucks are assigned daily to collecting rubbish from business establishments which have two collections weekly. Such establishments, however, are entitled to the collection of two barrels, bundles or cartons without charge and for each bundle, carton or barrel in excess of two a charge of 10¢ each is made. Tickets for these charges are purchased only at the office of the Street Commissioner.

BILL SHERMAN: How are collections made in the residential sections of the City?

MR. FOLEY: The residential section of the City is divided into five separate districts, each district receiving one weekly collection of refuse. Each days work is divided into 13 routes with two trucks and one crew of three collectors. Previous to early 1949, one truck and crew of collectors covered each route and when a load was obtained, rode either to the City dump or the incinerator. Under this system three to four hours labor on the part of each collector was lost daily. With the placing of an additional truck on the route, the second truck moves in as soon as the first truck is loaded and the collectors work continuously during the day. Each route is covered twice, the first collection being made for the purpose of collecting combustible material which is hauled to the Incinerator and on the second trip, non-combustibles are collected which are taken to the Pine Street Dump.

BILL SHERMAN: How many homes do you service?

MR. FOLEY: The total number is nearing 20,000 and we average more than 40,000 barrels weekly. At present 80 to 85 tons of material is being taken to the Incinerator daily and 50 to 60 tons to the Dump. Plus the weight of barrels it is estimated that each collector has to handle and throw on our trucks approximately 4 tons daily.

Because of the greatly increased amount of rubbish being collected due to the increase in new homes, plus efforts to eliminate dump fires and provide for a more sanitary dump, insofar as possible, all combustibles are taken to the Incinerator at Newton Highlands. This Incinerator has a burning capacity of about 50 tons in an 8 hour period. The increased tonnage being collected made it necessary to employ a second shift of men at the Incinerator starting in September.

Considerable headway has been made in improvement of the sanitary conditions at our dump, and today it is sightly, fenced in, properly maintained and serviced

periodically for the extermination of rats and vermin. Installation of weighing scales at the Dump, plus those previously installed at the Incinerator, enable us to keep reliable cost figures on our various operations.

BILL SHERMAN: Are there ways in which the citizens can be of assistance in your work?

MR. FOLEY: Yes, by observing the regulations provided. The principal ones are as follows: Place all barrels and waste at curb line by 7 o'clock A.M. on day of collection. This is important as the City employees start work daily at 7 A.M. A delay in placing out barrels means additional collection service, sometimes leading to expensive overtime work.

Segregate combustibles and Non-combustibles. This is most important from a sanitary standpoint and aids in efficient operation of both the Incinerator and the Dump.

Tie up loose papers and magazines. Many times City trucks are accused of spilling loose papers on the highways, when the real cause has been from winds blowing rubbish untied or loosely packed at the curb.

Brush. This material must be cut in lengths not over 4 feet long and tied in bundles not over 2 feet in diameter. This is necessary in order that same may be properly handled at the Incinerator.

Barrels or containers must not weigh over 125 lbs. This regulation is most important. Every year a number of our men suffer from hernias incurred in connection with heavy lifting. In 1949 several were obliged to undergo surgical operations because of such injuries.

It is also required that barrels must be removed from the highway the day of collection. This is necessary in order to avoid possible injuries to pedestrians, particularly after dark and naturally for the better appearance of the City.

The cooperation of our citizens in obeying these regulations will not only be appreciated but will provide all with more efficient and economical service.

BILL SHERMAN: I have noticed the past year that when a holiday occurs during a normal work day that no rubbish collection is made in the district entitled to collection on that day until the following week. What are the reasons for this?

MR. FOLEY: Previously, the day following a holiday we collected rubbish from the district which was not collected on the holiday and also from the district regularly collected on that day, that is from two districts in one day. In order to do this we had to call on all our other Divisions for most of their trucks and a large number of their available men. In many cases urgent work had to be delayed in the Divisions furnishing equipment and personnel and normal daily cost of operation increased considerably. Also the trucks obtained from other Divisions are not equipped for rubbish collection and cannot handle profitable loads. Because of equipment factors and the large increase in operation costs, this change in operations was made. The same method of delaying holiday collections until the following week is in effect in many other cities and towns.

BILL SHERMAN: From which of the City yards are these operations handled?

MR. FOLEY: From the Auburndale Avenue Yard in West Newton which is also adjacent to the Pine Street dumping area.

BILL SHERMAN: Does your Division handle any other functions other than the collection of rubbish?

MR. FOLEY: Yes, the Auburndale Avenue Division has to care for all type of maintenance operations in a district of nearly 100 miles of streets, covering West Newton, Auburndale, Newton Lower Falls and that portion of Waban west of Chestnut Street, the Division having a total personnel of 120 men for all operations.

BILL SHERMAN: Does your Division also handle snow removal in your district?

MR. FOLEY: Yes, and all rubbish trucks are used for this purpose. The only time there might be a delay in rubbish collection service throughout the City would be when severe Winter storms make it necessary to use the rubbish trucks for several days at a time for plowing and snow removal from business sections of the Division.

We hope this short talk has been informative to our citizens and can assure them that through their cooperation we can provide better and economical service to all.



PUBLIC RELATIONS BROADCAST

January 23, 1950

Good afternoon, Bill:

This Broadcast is the 22nd in this Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint the citizenry with the operations of the Newton City Government and its various Departments.

This afternoon we are presenting Mr. Carl C. Mullen, Commissioner of the Veterans' Housing Department of the City of Newton.

Mr. Mullen has been a resident of Newton for nearly 30 years, and his home is in the Oak Hill section of the City. He was born in Amherst, Massachusetts- - - attended the local schools of that town and is a graduate of Worcester Academy and Northeastern University.

Mr. Mullen is an expert at the sport of Fly Casting and is President of Mirimichi Anglers' Association, Doaktown, New Brunswick.

Mr. Mullen is the First Vice President and Secretary of The Columbian National Life Insurance Company of Boston, and for many years he has been in charge of the mortgage loan department - - - and has been responsible for the placing of many millions of dollars of mortgage loans secured by residential properties throughout the United States.

Mr. Mullen was appointed Commissioner of the Veterans' Housing Department by Mayor Theodore R. Lockwood in January, 1948, and his two associates, all of whom serve without compensation, are Warren W. Oliver and Frederick A. Hawkins each one being well known for his interest and accomplishments in civic and governmental affairs.

Today Mr. Mullen, in person, has a most interesting and informative message for the citizens of Newton pertaining to the functions of the Veterans' Housing Department.

Bill, it is a distinct privilege for me to present to you and through you to our WCRB radio audience, Mr. Carl C. Mullen, Commissioner of the Veterans' Housing Department.

Next Monday, Bill, at the same hour we will present Mr. Matt B. Jones, Jr., City Solicitor for the City of Newton. We invited Mr. Jones to look in today, and fortunately, for us, he found it possible to come in for a quick "Hello". Bill, here's Matt Jones, Jr.

VETERANS HOUSING DEPARTMENT

CARL C. MULLEN, COMMISSIONER

January 23, 1950

In telling of the building of Oak Hill Park and the City of Newton's contribution in providing homes for its veterans, I think I should start at the beginning and give you the story step by step.

Shortly after the end of World War II, the difficulties experienced by our veterans in obtaining suitable living accommodations became increasingly evident. The City government being keenly aware of this situation, in the fall of 1947 appointed an informal committee from the Board of Aldermen, headed by Alderman Sidney H. Baylor, to study the matter and bring in recommendations. As a result of its preliminary studies and of a questionnaire sent to all veterans in Newton, it became evident that something must be done at once. The questionnaire disclosed the individual requirements of the veterans and the prices they were able to pay and support. An analysis of the indicated annual income of a majority of those seeking homes made it clear that such homes could not be produced if ordinary speculative building practices were followed and further that a housing program would be possible only with the fullest cooperation of the City of Newton. This study and the veterans' housing survey proved conclusive justification for a housing program.

In December, 1947, the Board of Aldermen passed a City Ordinance creating a Veterans' Housing Department charged with the responsibility of providing homes for our veterans. The Ordinance provided for a three-man unpaid department with one member appointed for one year, one member for two years and the third member designated as the Commissioner for a three-year term. The Board of Aldermen appointed as members of this Department Mr. Warren W. Oliver, a prominent banker in Newton, Mr. Fred A. Hawkins, the head of a well known construction firm in Newton, and myself as Commissioner.

QUESTION: Now with the preliminary work out of the way and the Veterans' Housing Department officially set up, what did you do then?

ANSWER: Our first problem was two-fold: to decide on the type of construction and to find a building firm with the ability and the know how to undertake a development of the magnitude that was contemplated and which would not likely fail to complete the job.

We then made trips to several cities in New England inspecting various housing developments and interviewing construction firms.

The next step was to decide on a location large enough and suitable for our purpose. After surveying some seventeen possible locations, it was recommended to the Board of Aldermen that the City take by eminent domain 126 acres of land in the Oak Hill section of the City. It was felt that economies could be effected in developing only one area which would not have been possible had we built a smaller number of homes in each of several locations.

In April of 1948, plans and specifications were ready and the area chosen had been laid out by the City Engineering Department under the direction of the Commissioner of Public Works Willard Pratt giving the contour grades for the lots, streets, sidewalks, paths, etc.

QUESTION: With the plans and specifications completed and the plot plan laid out, what did the over-all plan provide for?

The over-all plan provided for 412 single dwellings, a school and recreation area, a parking area and a business area. It was to be a self-contained community with all the necessary school and shopping facilities. Transportation was made available through the Middlesex and Boston busses which now circle the Park at frequent intervals during the day and evening.

The plot plan is most modern and is known as the campus type where many houses face walkways and service entrances and garages are entered from the rear. Children living in these sections cross no streets in entering the school area thus greatly increasing the safety factor.

The magnitude of the undertaking is apparent when you realize that there are more than 5½ miles of streets in Oak Hill Park, that no lot is less than 7,000 square feet and many are 10,000 square feet or better and the largest is 17,521 square feet. In addition to the 12 shrubs planted around each home, the City has planted more than 1100 trees and approximately 500 evergreens in landscaping the area.

QUESTION: What about the variation in the size of the lots? Did they pay more for the larger ones than the smaller ones and how were the lots allocated to the individual owners?

ANSWER: In the first place, all lots were priced exactly the same at \$50 which was included in the price paid for the house. The allocation was handled in a way which we considered fair to all. We had the architect lay out the entire development and spot the type of house which he thought should go on each lot. There were six types of houses and it was so arranged that the same types would not be built on adjacent lots. The purchaser first selected the type of house he desired and then spotted on the master plan the lots on which this type of house was to be built and then selected the lot available.

The method of financing the undertaking by the City of Newton is unique and we understand has not been attempted by any other municipality in the United States. In the first place, the City had nothing to do with the actual financing of the individual houses. Three different types of contracts were entered into by the Veterans' Housing Department: - one with the John MacDonald Construction Co. of Newton for the construction of a trunk sewer which had to be built for a distance of a mile and one quarter before it reached the project.

QUESTION: Did you say a mile and one quarter?

ANSWER: Yes, Bill, that is correct.

QUESTION: It must have cost a lot of money?

ANSWER: Yes, it did cost approximately \$160,000 and although the entire cost was charged against Oak Hill Park, it should be noted that it opens up some 300 acres of the Shaw Estate for development as the Shaw land drains into the Newton water reservation and cesspools and septic tanks cannot be used.

The second contract was with Peter Salvucci & Sons, Waltham, Mass. and called for a utilities contract for the grading of the entire project, building streets, sidewalks, curbs, sewers, surface drains, water mains and all other work of this nature except the finished grading and the seeding of the lawns and installing flagstone walks.

Incidentally, grading the project involved pushing around more than one half million cubic yards of dirt and gravel. The Kelly Corporation of Arlington, Massachusetts, the largest builder of small homes in New England, was chosen to undertake the construction of the houses. This company operates on a large scale and is able to effect economies in construction which smaller builders cannot achieve. It also had wholesale outlets which made possible mass purchasing and stock piling of scarce building materials and had its own timberlands, saw mills and woodworking shops, thus saving dealer profits on many important items of construction and equipment. The contract with this corporation provided that this work be in accordance with plans and specifications and the houses sold at agreed prices to veterans as certified by the Veterans' Housing Department.

QUESTION: Mr. Mullen, you have just mentioned agreed prices for these houses. What were these prices?

ANSWER: The basic houses which had asbestos shingle exteriors sold for \$7,820. Wherever cedar clapboards were used as exterior wall covering in place of asbestos shingles, the purchase price of the basic house was increased by \$247; where cedar shingles were used, the increase amounted to \$319; the addition of a breezeway or porch increased the cost by \$325 and a garage by \$925.

The mortgage financing of the individual houses was arranged by the veterans themselves under the F. H. A. insured mortgage plan or under the G. I. Bill of Rights plan. Our Newton banks handled the majority of these loans and contributed much to the success of the development, absorbing all the so-called closing charges at considerable expense to the banks and a saving to the veterans.

The City floated a bond issue to cover the cost of the acquisition of the land, building the trunk sewer, laying out and building all streets, etc. and all other work called for under the utility contract. We now come to the most unusual part of the entire undertaking. The total cost to the City was approximately \$1,600,000 all of which it is expected will be recovered by the City within 16 years through the real estate taxes paid by the individual home owners. You will note it appears the City will have provided all these homes for its veterans at no ultimate cost excepting that of furnishing school facilities and police and fire protection and garbage and trash collection.

Now, let us talk about the houses. They are three bedroom houses with a full bath and shower, living room, combination kitchen and dinnette and utility room. They are fully insulated with rock wool both in the side walls and in the ceilings, are equipped with either gas or electric ranges, domestic hot water by an insulated storage tank gas fired and all homes are heated by radiant heat with circulating hot water with boiler fired by an automatic oil burner.

The construction of these houses is of interest as they are the so-called utility type with no cellars. First, a trench was dug around the entire house area 36 x 24 feet. Then a cement perimeter wall 12 inches wide and 4 feet deep was poured. Next the area inside the perimeter wall was filled and tamped with gravel and then a 4 inch reinforced concrete slab was poured over the entire area. Embedded in the cement slab are the $\frac{1}{2}$ inch copper radiant heating coils laid 12 inches on centers. The heat for each room is controlled by individual valves at the base of the boiler in the utility room. The floors were then finished by asphalt tile laid in mastic on the cement slab.

QUESTION: Isn't radiant heat expensive to operate?

ANSWER: No, on the contrary, it is very economical to operate and we have heard of no case where the season's heating bill has exceeded \$100 and many report only \$60 to \$70.

From there on the construction is the conventional type of framing and in all respects conforms to the strict rules of the Newton building code. The overall size of the house as just mentioned is 36 x 24 feet and the interior finish and floor layout is identical in all 412 houses. Constant effort was made from the very start to give more house for the money without sacrificing quality. Many devices were employed to give an appearance of variation such as the use of different kinds of exterior siding, location of the house on the lot, varied colors and different roof treatments. Additions of breezeways and garages carried this variation even further. All walls and ceilings are the dry wall type and all walls were painted a neutral color to harmonize with rugs and draperies.

The bathroom walls are papered with walltex, a washable paper, in texture somewhat similar to the oil cloth your grandmother probably had on her kitchen table. In order to get away from uniformity of design and location on the individual lots, similar types of houses were not built next to each other and no two houses are lined up exactly the same on the lot.

Owing to the desperate housing needs of many of our veterans, we made strenuous efforts to get them housed before cold weather set in the winter of 1948 and by Christmas of that year had more than 150 families living in their new homes and by December 31, 1948 approximately 200 families were in. Actual construction of the houses started early in July, 1948 and twelve months later 98% of the houses had been completed and a month later all 412 were ready for occupancy so in 13 months, the actual construction was completed. This would not have been possible without the splendid wholehearted cooperation of the City government from the Mayor down and the outstanding support of the several City departments involved in the various activities. To Inspector Ed Kivell of the Veterans' Housing Department we all owe a great debt of gratitude for his efficient and persistent work covering all phases of the land development and the construction of the houses.

We should also like to pay tribute to the efforts of the three utility companies and their staffs in coordinating their activities so that we could have continuous uninterrupted progress and no work stoppages. The Boston Edison Co., the Boston Consolidated Gas Company and the New England Telephone Company and their working staffs were directly responsible for the steady progress and flow of work.

QUESTION: You told me, Carl, before we came on the air, that no one person was responsible for building of Oak Hill Park. If this is so, who were responsible for Oak Hill Park?

ANSWER: Oak Hill Park is not the result of the work of one individual or one group but was made possible only through the concerted efforts of a great many people wholeheartedly interested in providing homes for our veterans at the earliest possible moment and we of the Veterans' Housing Department are most grateful for their splendid help and support.

During the early stages of the Development, we interviewed and screened many hundreds of applicants. We are convinced these fine young people are a credit to the City of Newton and as time goes on will become the outstanding citizens of our community.

In order to maintain a high standard in Oak Hill Park and to provide for social activities, there has been formed by the home owners an association called Oak Hill Park Improvement Association. It is a well organized association and has already been instrumental in accomplishing much.

There is a great deal of sentiment in connection with the Park. All streets and paths are named after Newton men who gave their lives in combat in World War II. The fathers and mothers of these young men often visit the Park and have come to know the families who live on the streets named after their sons.

Last Memorial Day, for example, a mother gave each family living on the street bearing her son's name a white rose bush in memory of her son. Another mother gave a large American flag to the people on her son's street. A flag pole has now been erected on this street and on Christmas Day, I noticed the flag flying and a beautiful wreath around the standard bearing her son's name. More of this I am sure will be forthcoming when the Park is officially dedicated next May.

It was not an easy task to build Oak Hill Park but we all feel that our efforts were worthwhile and feel a great satisfaction in being privileged to have had a part in the work of providing these grand deserving young people with the opportunity of becoming home owners in the greatest nation of home owners in the world.

CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION OF

MR. MATT B. JONES JR.,

CITY SOLICITOR

BY

HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

January 30, 1950

Good afternoon, Bill:

Yes, another Monday has rolled around, and this is the 23rd Broadcast in this Series of Informational Programs, designed to acquaint the citizenry with operations of the City Government.

This afternoon, we are presenting Mr. Matt B. Jones, Jr., City Solicitor, for the City of Newton.

Mr. Jones is a native of Newton, was educated in the Newton Public Schools. He also graduated from the Phillips Exeter Academy, Williams College and Harvard University Law School.

Mr. Jones was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1931, and is engaged in the general practice of law with the Boston firm of Powers and Hall with whom he has been associated, since 1931 and as a partner since 1941.

Our speaker served in the Navy during World War II with the rank of Lt. Commander.

Mayor Theodore R. Lockwood appointed Mr. Jones to the Newton Licensing Board in 1948 from which he resigned in April, 1949 to become Assistant City Solicitor. On July 1, 1949 Mayor Lockwood appointed Mr. Jones as legal advisor and Solicitor of the City.

We rejoice today, Bill, that we have Mr. Jones with us, in person, for the express purpose of bringing to the citizenry of Newton a comprehensive picture of Newton's Law Department.

Bill, I have the honor of presenting to you, Mr. Matt B. Jones, Jr., Newton's City Solicitor.

Bill, Here's Matt Jones.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour we will present to you and thru you to our WCRB radio audience Mr. J. Ellis Bowen, Acting Sealer of Weights and Measures. We invited Mr. Bowen to step in to say "Hello," and here he is Bill - - - for a "Quickie."

MR. MATT B. JONES, JR.

CITY SOLICITOR

MR. JONES:

This talk on the Law Department will have to be a little different from most of the earlier broadcasts of this series.

You see, Bill, the work of the Street Department, for instances, is something quite real to the citizens. It renders a basic service with which they come in contact frequently and of which they can see or experience the tangible results. The same is true of the School Department, the Recreation Department and many others.

The law department, on the other hand, is engaged primarily in rendering services to the other city departments. It comes into direct contact with the citizen relatively infrequently. Its activities are translated only indirectly, through the work of the other departments, into something the citizen can see or experience, and in consequence the story of its problems or accomplishments cannot be told in terms of concrete facts or figures, but is necessarily general in scope.

BILL SHERMAN: Can you tell us something of its organization?

MR. JONES: That, Bill, is an easy story to tell. It is, I believe, one of the smallest of all the city departments. Its organization and personnel problems are negligible. It consists, at the present time, of the City Solicitor and no one else.

Traditionally, the Office of the City Solicitor of Newton has been filled on a part time basis by a lawyer otherwise engaged in general practice. In this way it is hoped to obtain for the city a broad base of legal experience at the lowest cost consistent with proper administration of its affairs. This does not mean that city legal affairs are relegated to a secondary place in the City Solicitor's practice. He is required to devote such time to them as is necessary for their proper administration. It does explain, however, why his offices are maintained away from City Hall.

BILL SHERMAN: Can you tell us generally of the duties of the City Solicitor?

MR. JONES: Bill, the City Solicitor is nothing more nor less than the lawyer for the city government, which includes all of its many officers, departments and boards. As such, he performs for them much the same services as a lawyer in general practice performs for his clients. He gives legal advice generally where required, advances their interests before legislation committees, prepares or approves legal documents, conducts negotiations involving legal problems, and handles in the courts such matters involving the city's interest as require litigation.

BILL SHERMAN: Are there any peculiarities about your practice as City Solicitor which you do not find in general practice?

MR. JONES: There certainly are as I am still finding out. The practice of municipal law is a specialized one. The reason for this, I believe, lies



principally in two things, first the peculiar nature of a city government and second the broad scope of its activities and interests.

BILL SHERMAN: What do you mean by the peculiar nature of city government?

MR. JONES: Just this. You and I, Bill, as natural persons are pretty much at liberty to conduct our lives and businesses as we see fit, provided we respect the rights of others as embodied in the several laws and moral concepts which support a civilized society. Of course, the restrictions upon us are becoming more numerous as our society becomes more complex or more enlightened, but it is still generally a true statement that we as individuals have unlimited rights except as they are circumscribed by laws and custom.

A unit of government in a democratic country, however, has only such powers as are conferred upon it. A city or town, at least in Massachusetts, is even more limited in its authority, because it is only a convenient unit for local self government, created by the state, and having only such powers as are expressly conferred upon it by the state. It is necessary, therefore, to find some affirmative basis in law for every act taken by the city government.

BILL SHERMAN: Can you give me an example of this?

MR. JONES: Well, as an example, let us consider the expenditure of money. Provided it is for a lawful purpose, and there are not many purposes for which the expenditure of private money is unlawful, you or I, Bill, can spend our money for about what we please. Moreover, if we see something we want and can afford, we may either buy it out of our own pockets, or provided our credit is good, we can borrow for it, as we see fit. But in the case of a city the purposes for which it may spend its public funds, even if the Board of Aldermen and Mayor wish to spend them, are strictly limited by law. More than that the purposes for which, and the amounts in which, the city government may borrow for its clearly legitimate purposes are also strictly limited by law. If not authorized to borrow, it must raise the money from its tax levy.

It is the same in all other lines of municipal endeavor,--in the administration of its welfare program, school system, and all its other services, in the taking of land for public purposes, in the enactment and administration of its building and zoning laws and other ordinances and regulations for governing the conduct of its citizens, and many other matters. It is of course desirable, for the protection of the citizens and as a safeguard against waste of public funds that this be so, but it puts upon the city officials a burden of constant watchfulness that they do only such things, and then only in such manner, as may be expressly permitted by law. It also explains why, upon occasion, the city is not able to do some of the things that the citizens would like it to do.

I do not mean to suggest that the whole burden of this rests on the City Solicitor, for that is not the case. The various officers and department heads are well versed in the legal problems involved in their particular operations. In the field of expenditures in particular, the comptroller has a heavy responsibility. But quite frequently unusual situations or questions of interpretation arise which require that the City Solicitor be brought into the picture.

BILL SHERMAN: You mentioned the broad scope of the city's activities and interests as a complicating factor in the City Solicitor's work. Will you tell us something about that?

MR. JONES: Yes, Bill, the city is engaged in many types of business activities which have been or will be described in this broadcast series. In connection with them it operates a large fleet of motor vehicles, which inevitably means accident claims. It requires contracts for the purchase of the large amount of supplies and materials which it needs. It has a pension system for its employees to be interpreted and administered, and so on. In other words the city, as a business, meets most of the ordinary problems that may confront a businessman.

But there are many other problems which are not present, at least to the same degree, in ordinary business experience. Restrictions as to methods of making purchases, the assessment and collection of taxes, the employment of personnel through civil service, the duty to extend welfare aid and old age assistance and the proper allocation of the cost, or the acquisition of property by right of eminent domain, to mention just a few.

BILL SHERMAN: Where do you turn to find the answers on these various problems?

MR. JONES: There are many places.

As I have told you, cities are created by the state legislature. This is done by means of a charter. Newton has had several charters, all by special act of the legislature. The most recent, and the one under which it is now operating, was enacted in 1897, although it has been amended several times since then. This charter does not define all of the rights and powers of and limitations on the city but is mainly a general guide as to the method by which the city government is to function. For instance it provides for a city government composed of a Mayor, a board of aldermen and administrative departments, and sets forth the respective powers and duties of each. It determines the time and manner of elections and prescribes certain general rules for the conduct of the government.

Back of the charter is a broad compilation of laws called the General Laws, of general application throughout the state. Many of these are devoted to defining the obligations and duties of cities and towns. For instance there is one chapter of 23 sections prescribing rules for the operation of city and town governments, another of 83 sections defining the powers and duties of cities and towns, another of 178 sections defining the powers and duties of city and town officers, another of 78 sections governing the administration of municipal finance, one of 96 sections defining the method of assessment of local taxes and another of 103 sections governing their collection. And so on through the fields of health, education, building, welfare, eminent domain, public works, libraries, veterans benefits, pensions, civil service and labor, and many others.

In addition to the general laws, there are many special laws of limited application which apply to city or town government. And there are literally thousands of decisions of our Supreme Judicial Court applying and interpreting these laws which have to be considered.

Within certain fields, the legislature has granted to the city the right to prescribe its own laws by enactment by the Board of Aldermen with approval of the Mayor. These are called the city ordinances and standing regulations. A recompilation of these is under way at the present time, but the last one in 1939 required a printed volume of over 500 pages.

BILL SHERMAN: Is the city involved in much litigation?

MR. JONES: No, considering the volume of business it transacts. At the present time there are 47 pending court cases against the city. Of these 15 are for assessment of damages for a taking by eminent domain, 12 are for damages or injuries alleged to have been sustained from defects in the highways, 6 resulted from a burst water main, 3 are for disputed amounts alleged to be due under contracts, 2 arise from motor vehicle accidents, and 2 are contesting the validity of particular applications of the zoning ordinance.

BILL SHERMAN: You say there are only 2 motor vehicle cases. Isn't that a surprisingly small number?

MR. JONES: Not in this case, Bill. Actually, in my opinion, those two should not have been brought. You see the city, because it is a governmental unit, enjoys certain immunities, one of which is exemption from liability for the torts of its employees except where it is engaged in a venture of commercial nature, such as supplying water where the water is paid for by the customer. As a consequence the city has no liability on collisions involving rubbish trucks and other motor vehicles other than those of the Water Department. In such cases the only recourse is against the driver of the vehicle. I believe it is a good commentary on the care exercised by our drivers that, notwithstanding the large number of vehicles that the city operates, there are at present only five cases pending against drivers.

On the other hand, the statutes make the city responsible to maintain its highways in a reasonable safe condition for public travel and make it liable for failure to do so. Of course what constitutes a reasonable safe condition can always be made a matter of dispute, and that explains the relatively high number of defect cases, although I do not believe, in view of the many miles of accepted streets in Newton, that even this is excessive.

February 6, 1950

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

Good afternoon, Bill:

This is the 24th Broadcast in this Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint our citizens with city government operations here at City Hall.

This afternoon we will present Mr. J. Ellis Bowen, Acting Sealer of Weights and Measures. By way of introduction I might say that Mr. Bowen first came to work for the City in 1936 and has been with us ever since except for a leave of absence during which he served his country in the United States Coast Guard during the recent war. Mr. Bowen, by the way, has brought to this office a valuable asset in regard to the enforcement of Weights and Measures Law. During his employment by the City he attended Evening Law School and was graduated Cum Laude therefrom. He is qualified for the practice of Law and is a member of the Massachusetts Bar as well as the Federal Bar.

DEPARTMENT OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

MR. J. ELLIS BOWEN, ACTING SEALER

February 6, 1950

MR. BOWEN: How do you do, Bill.

BILL SHERMAN: How do you do Mr. Bowen, We're happy to have you with us today because we feel that you are one of the men, not often seen, who are on the job constantly to protect the interests of all of us. We'd like you to tell us about these interests of ours that you protect, and something of how you go about it.

MR. BOWEN: Bill, I'm glad you framed your request that way because first I would like to say to you, and to our listeners, that the matter of Weights and Measures is so important that the Constitution of the United States specifically delegates to Congress the authority to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and "fix the standard of Weights and Measures". George Washington, in his first message to Congress in 1790 stated that "uniformity in the currency and Weights and Measures of the United States is an object of great importance and will, I am persuaded, be duly attended to". It is no accident that these two powers were mentioned together, for their effect on your pocketbook, or on your business and every-day living is very closely related. The Sealer, when going about his work is performing one of the most important functions of government.

Standards of Weights and Measures are not vague or meaningless symbols, but accurate standards that afford an equal degree of protection to all who buy or sell essentials or the luxuries of life. If these standards were to be taken suddenly from us, no one could imagine the extent of the confusion which would result from such action. Efficient inspection of Weights and Measures and supervision of the same are vitally important, not only to the purchasing public, but to the manufacturer and retail merchant as well. This work insures that the public receives full value for the money expended, and protects the retail merchant from the possibility of giving more of a commodity than he is paid for, due to faulty weighing or measuring devices, and this is the primary duty of your Sealer of Weights and Measures.

The Sealer enforces the laws of Weights and Measures. He understands the principals upon which the device which he is called upon to test are operated. He must, of necessity, be somewhat of a lawyer and, in many cases, judge and jury as well. He is a Law Enforcement Officer. The vast majority of our merchants are honest, and I seek, and appreciate their cooperation.

BILL SHERMAN: What sort of equipment do you use in your work?

MR. BOWEN: Well, Bill, first of all, in my office at City Hall, carefully protected from dust and dirt, in a large glass cabinet, are the Standards of Weights and Measures. These consist of a large and a small balance together with weights ranging from fifty pounds down to ten milligrams, and when you picture the weight of a milligram as being one-thousandths part of a cube of water about 3/8ths of an inch square, it's getting down pretty fine. Then I have a Standard Meter Measure, a Standard Yard Measure and various bulk measures both liquid and dry. These stay in my office and are tested periodically by the office of the Director of Standards for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In addition I have a set of Working Standards that I carry about in my car for testing Weights and Measures in the field.

BILL SHERMAN: How about that field work, what do you do when you go into a store?

MR. BOWEN: Don't think stores are the only place we go, Bill, or that testing scales is our only function. In 1949 your Sealer tested the following: 15 scales of a capacity over 10,000 pounds, and those were not in stores. They are coal weighing scales and such. 124 scales of a capacity from 100 to 5,000 pounds were sealed, 44 of them requiring adjustment, and 12 were condemned as unfit. In smaller scales, such as those

used by your grocer, 432 were sealed, 88 of them adjusted, and 146 condemned as unfit. 298 weights were tested and sealed, many of these being those of your druggists.

BILL SHERMAN: Boy, when I get a prescription filled I sure hope the druggist's Weights and Measuring Devices are correct.

MR. BOWEN: They are, Bill, if they have been sealed. Of course, all of our work provides for tolerances in excess or deficiency. But those are mighty small in the case of druggists' equipment.

Your Sealer tested 178 gasoline pumps and condemned 7 as inaccurate. Oil, grease and kerosene measuring devices, vehicle tank trucks, bulk oil storage meters, yard sticks, must all be accurate within allowable tolerances.

Now to answer your question, "What do I do when I go into a store?" As I enter a store, I try to notice several things at first glance. Are the scales in plain view or are they hidden? It is good practice to always go to the rear of the store first and notice the balance of each scale as I pass. By doing this I obtain a general opinion of the store. I start testing the scales at the rear of the store and work toward the front.

Now for the test itself. First, is the scale in balance? Regardless of whether it is or not, I test to see the weighing condition as it has been used by the merchant. I note the capacity of the scale and apply one half and full capacity tests in the center of the scale platter.

Then in the case of a cylinder scale, I remove the weights and test the first and third quarters of the scale. I then remove all weights on the platter and place a two pound weight at various points on the platter for the shift test. Again I remove the weights and start from zero, or wherever the scale rests with no load, and add weights, one pound at a time, until I have passed the average weighing range of the merchant.

On all of the above tests, I have been watching for friction and other errors. Furthermore, I am always using my set of fractional weights. The sensitiveness of the scale can be readily determined by the use of the ounce and other small weights.

We must assume that the scale was originally accurate when it left the factory. Your Sealer has been looking for defects which are caused by use and abuse, dirt and corrosion, trickery or tampering. If no greater error than the tolerance allowed for this type of scale, one-half ounce on capacity, is found, the scale is sealed. This is done by placing on the customer's side of the scale, a seal with my name as Sealer and the date of the test. The color of this seal is green for the even year and red for the odd year. An exception was last year when silver seals were used. This year, being even, it is green. This enables your Sealer to tell at a glance whether or not the scale has been sealed during the year of inspection. You too, as time goes on, will notice green seals appearing to replace the silver seals of last year. When you see a green seal on your grocer's scale, or on your gasoline pump, this year, you will know that your Sealer has been there, and that the scale or meter is accurate and to be trusted.

BILL SHERMAN: Do you charge the merchant a fee for all this service?

MR. BOWEN: Yes. The fees are prescribed by General Laws. For instance, the fee for a scale over 10,000 pounds capacity is \$5.00, for a scale under 100 pounds, such as your grocer probably uses, is 50 cents. The druggists' weights are 10 cents a piece. Gasoline pumps \$1.00 each, and so on.

BILL SHERMAN: Is your Department self-supporting, that is, do the fees that you have told about pay the cost of operating the Department?

MR. BOWEN: No, only in part. Last year there was a net cost to the taxpayers of \$3,568.47, or less than 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per capita, based on population. for the year. I don't know of any other circumstance where so many people get so much protection for so little cost.

BILL SHERMAN: It sounds as though you would be a busy man, Mr. Bowen, testing, adjusting and sealing scales and measuring devices in all the thirteen villages of Newton.

MR. BOWEN: That's an understatement, Bill. The Sealer is on the job in other ways too, for which no fees are charged, in order to protect your pocketbook. These include investigational and supervisory work, trial weighings of commodities, inspections and tests.

BILL SHERMAN: What do you mean by trial weighings of commodities for example?

MR. BOWEN: As the terminology implies, your Sealer is constantly going about doing what you might call "spot checking". At any time I may appear in a store unannounced and weigh merchandise that has been prepackaged in anticipation of sale. Of course, I am interested in the net weight of the commodity. I may weigh bread, or cranberries, or nuts, or butter, or any other commodity.

I may stop a coal truck on the highway and demand to see the certificate of weight accompanying the load. When I do this, I order the truck to the most convenient coal scales and weigh same for gross weight, then allow the load to be delivered. the empty truck to return for weighing again. The certificate accompanying that load should agree with my trial weighing. I may stop a load of road building material in the same way and for the same purpose.

Perhaps tomorrow I will drop in on your corner grocer and examine his packaged merchandise at random to see that it is properly marked with the net weight. If he is exposing for sale coal or kindling wood, I will examine the containers to see that they are in conformity with law and contain the proper contents.

BILL SHERMAN: You mention that you are a Law Enforcement Officer. Do you have powers similar to those of a Police Officer to carry out your enforcement if the vendor refuses or fails to comply with the law?

MR. BOWEN: Oh, yes, the Sealer is vested with ample authority under the statutes to carry out the duties of office, and in some respects he has authority exceeding that of a Police Officer.

BILL SHERMAN: What would be an instance where you have more authority than a Police Officer?

MR. BOWEN: To cite one instance, General Laws confer the authority upon your Sealer, in certain circumstances, to seize property without warrant. And, of course, the Sealer is given quite a field under which he may prosecute an offender.

BILL SHERMAN: Have you been doing this work since you first came to work for the City, some thirteen years ago, I think Mr. Pilsbury said?

MR. BOWEN: No, until recently I have been in the City Clerk's office. My predecessor as Sealer was Mr. Andrew Prior who passed away in October. The Honorable Theodore R. Lockwood, our Mayor, with the approval of the Department of Civil Service and Registration, thereupon appointed me Acting Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Mr. Prior was known as "Andy" to hundreds of people throughout our City and was truly a friend of them all. Always modest, and of unquestioned integrity, he loyally and ably

PUBLIC RELATIONS

February 13, 1950

Hello Again Bill:

Yes, this is the 25th in this Series of Informational Programs, designed to acquaint the citizenry, with the operations of the N ewton City Government.

This afternoon, we are presenting Alderman, Wendell R. Bauckman, President of the Newton Board of Alderman.

Alderman Bauckman is now in his ninth year as a member of the Board and was first elected President of the Board for the years 1948 and 1949 and again on January 2nd this year for the years 1950 and 1951.

Alderman Bauckman is in the leather business in Boston and his avocation is most unusual, that of a Pigeon Fancier. He has won many prizes with his High Bred Homers.

Today, Alderman Bauckman, in person, has a most interesting and informative message for the citizens of Newton, pertaining to the functions of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Bill, it is my happy privilege to present to you and thru you to our WCRB radio audience, Hon. Wendell R. Bauckman, President of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

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Next week, Bill, at the same hour on the Bill Sherman goes calling program, we will present Mr. Harlan W. Kingsbury, Chief Sanitation Officer, for the City of Newton. We invited Mr. Kingsbury to be with us today and here he is Bill, for a quick "Hello." Harlan, here's Bill Sherman.



CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

WENDELL F. BAUCKMAN, PRESIDENT

THE NEWTON BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FEBRUARY 13, 1950

INTRODUCTION - Alderman Bauckman is now in his ninth year as a member of the Board and was first elected President of the Board for the years 1948 and 1949 and again on January 2 this year for the years 1950 and 1951. He is in the leather business in Boston and his avocation is most unusual--that of a Pigeon Fancier. He has won many prizes with his High Bred Homers.

BILL SHERMAN: How many citizens comprise the Board? How many are elected At-Large and how many by Wards?

MR. BAUCKMAN: Our Charter authorizes twenty-one Aldermen, three each from our seven wards, elected for a period of two years.

Each ward has one Ward Alderman and two Aldermen At-Large. The Ward Alderman appears only on the ballots of the ward in which he is to be elected. Whereas the Aldermen At-Large appear on the ballots throughout the entire city.

In other words a ballot for Ward 5 contains the opportunity to vote for one Ward Alderman and fourteen Aldermen at-large, two each from the seven wards.

BILL SHERMAN: Would you tell some thing about how the Board is organized, your duties and the appointment of the Standing Committees and their duties?

MR. BAUCKMAN: About two weeks before inauguration on January first the newly elected Board of Aldermen holds its caucus and elects an organization and adopts rules for two years. This organization consists of President, Vice President, City Collector, Treasurer, Comptroller and City Clerk. It then becomes the duty of the President to appoint the Standing and Select Committees which are announced on Inauguration Day. Standing Committees are authorized by the Rules and Orders of the Board of Aldermen. Select Committees are authorized by the Board. The Standing Committees are: Finance, Public Works, Claims and Rules, Franchises and Licenses, Public Building, Education, Legislation and Kenrick Fund. The Select Committees are: Street Traffic, Municipal Parking and Meters, Ward Lines and Street Renaming.

The usual procedure employed in appointing committees is to set up the personnel for Finance, Public Works and Franchises and Licenses utilizing the entire Board of twenty-one Aldermen. The Senior Alderman from the point of yearly service in each ward is usually selected for Finance Committee. The exception is in cases where a Chairman of Public Works or Franchises and Licenses is retained to head either of the two mentioned committees.

As you might expect, Finance Committee handles all matters relating to appropriations of money, salaries, pensions, bond issues of the city, sale of equipment, sale of city owned land, mortgage loans under the Horace Cousens Industrial Fund Newton Retirement System and all other matters affecting the finances of the city. It might be well to state here that the Board cannot initiate expenditures of money. All requests for appropriations must originate with the Mayor to be acted upon by the Board of Aldermen.



BILL SHERMAN: What part does the Board of Aldermen take in the making up of the Annual Budget?

MR. BAUCKMAN: The most important matter coming before the Board of Aldermen at this time is consideration of the annual "Budget," making appropriations for all Departments and Boards of the city for the current year. Under the provisions of the Municipal Finance Law applying to all cities of the Commonwealth, the Mayor is required to send to the Board of Aldermen on or before February 15th his recommendations for appropriations for the year, and the Board of Aldermen is required to approve, reduce or disapprove the recommendations on or before April 1st. This work by the Board of Aldermen is not done in a perfunctory manner, but all recommendations are given careful and serious consideration before final action is taken. When the "Budget" is received, it is referred to the Finance Committee, and in addition matters relating to public works, such as streets, water and recreation are referred to the Public Works Committee, matters relating to the public buildings of the city are referred to the Public Buildings Committee, and matters relating to the schools are referred to the Committee on Education. The annual "Budget" is rapidly approaching the ten million dollar mark, the exact total in 1949 being \$7,928,303.56 with many additional supplementary appropriations after passage of the "Budget." Many conferences with Department Heads are held by the Finance Committee, and with the experience of many of the older members serving in the Board many reductions are made, often times in many very desirable and worthwhile projects, particularly in the Street, Water, or Recreation Departments, which are postponed for another year. Much time is given to the matter of salaries, particularly in the Police, Fire, Buildings, and Public Works Departments, in order to secure as much uniformity as possible. Special laws relating to School Department appropriations somewhat limit the powers of the Board of Aldermen in respect to its expenditures which in 1949 took \$1,991,040.35, not including Buildings Department expenditures for maintenance of buildings, etc. Bond issue appropriations, of course, are in addition to this.

BILL SHERMAN: What about the various Standing Committees?

MR. BAUCKMAN: Public Works Committee handles all matters relating to the construction, repair and maintenance of public ways, public grounds, drains, sewers and water.

Franchises and Licenses Committee is concerned with matters relating to public service corporations, licenses and permits. Applications for certificates of incorporation, renewal of auctioneers' licenses, permits for taxi stands, pool rooms and bowling alleys are a few of the matters that come before this committee.

Claims and Rules Committee passes on matters relating to claims against the city and proposed changes in the ordinances of the city or rules of the Board and petitions under the provisions of the zoning ordinances with authority to hold hearings. Public Buildings Committee is interested in matters relating to the construction, repair and maintenance of city buildings.

The Committee on Education passes on matters relating to expenditures for schools, including suggested needs and preliminary plans for new classrooms and facilities as proposed by the School Committee. This Committee meets from time to time with representatives of the School Committee to discuss problems of joint concern.

The Committee of Legislation handles all matters relating to proposed or pending bills in or Acts of the General Court. The Committee advises and cooperates with the Mayor and City Solicitor on all matters before the General Court which affect



the interests of the city, and unless the Board in any particular case otherwise directs indicates what action, in their opinion, the city officials should take.

The Kenrick Fund Committee distributes the income from this fund. As a matter of explanation this fund was set up by John Kenrick, a public spirited citizen of Newton corner. In his will he left a sum of money to the City of Newton, the income from which he specified to be distributed to the worthy, industrious citizens of Newton. It is the income from this bequest that the Kenrick Fund Committee allocate each year.

BILL SHERMAN: What are the Select Committees?

MR. BAUCKMAN: As previously mentioned, Select Committees are authorized by vote of the Board of aldermen. In other words, the Board grants the President the power to select certain Committees for specific purposes. For example the Committee on Street Traffic works in conjunction with the Police Department and Street Department to regulate certain restrictions on automobile traffic and parking.

Municipal Parking and Meters Committee is a new Committee set up to continue the study of Off-Street Parking and to begin a survey to determine whether or not we should install parking meters in certain business areas, especially in areas where Off-Street Parking has been provided. Ward Lines is a Select Committee organized a year ago to study revision of ward lines to more evenly apportion our voting population throughout our seven wards. At the present time Wards 5 and 6 on the south side of the city have as great a voting population as have all other wards excluding Ward 2. In other words, Wards 5 and 6 just about equal Wards 1, 3, 4 and 7, so you can see a realignment of ward lines will be necessary in 1954 which is the year designated by the Legislature for such a change.

The Street Renaming Committee is also a new Select Committee set up to study a request by the Post Office Department to eliminate duplicate street names in the city. We have about 200 streets with duplicate names, such as Parker street-road-terrace-place-avenue that create a problem to the postal authorities because many people confuse street with road, etc. This Committee has a problem on its hands because no one wishes to have the name of his street changed.

BILL SHERMAN: You have many rules and orders to follow?

MR. BAUCKMAN: The Board of Aldermen has some very definite rules and orders. In brief the rules set the meetings of the Board for the first and third Monday evenings of each month at seven forty-five.

The rules further state that the President shall preside if a quorum is present. He must preserve order, he may speak to point of order in preference to other members, decide on questions of order and he declares the results of all votes.

The order of business at a meeting is set by the rules and is as follows:

1. Hearings on Petitions and Orders.
2. Communications and Reports from City Officers.
3. Presentation of Petitions.
4. Reports of Committees.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. Motions, Orders or Resolutions.

I would like to comment briefly on Board Hearings. It is the usual procedure of the Board to grant hearings on all matters of concern to the citizens. Interested persons should appear and give the Board the benefit of their opinions on a subject. Only in this manner can the Aldermen evaluate a problem and attempt to reach a sound decision. Citizens generally are apathetic and not always willing to cooperate in this matter. In many instances petitioners do not bother to appear for their hearing, and the Board has made a practice of granting leave to withdraw in such cases.

BILL SHERMAN: Just what are the Special Committees of the Board of Aldermen and their functions?

MR. BAUCKMAN: Considerable work is done by Special Committees of the Board of Aldermen, where special study and investigation are required. Veterans Housing was considered by members of Public Works, Finance and Claims & Rules, with considerable special work by individuals; Off-Street Parking by Public Works, Finance and Off-Street Parking Committees. A study is now being made of proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, a specialists has been engaged to work with the Committee and to report on what changes can be made to control development if necessary and to preserve all the privileges which the citizens now enjoy. The study relates particularly to extensions of business districts if necessary, or necessary changes in residential districts, single, double or apartment house. No radical changes will be made, however, without opportunity for citizens, improvement associations and others interested to express their views at public hearings by the Board of Committees of the Board.

Such public hearings have helped to solve many difficult problems and have given many citizens a better idea of the work of the Board of Aldermen and oftentimes citizens who have been opposed to certain changes or improvements have agreed that they should be made in the best interests of the city as a whole, after attending these hearings. This was proven in the work of the Board in having Gas Lamps abolished and modern electric lights installed on many of the older streets in high class residential districts. It necessitated placing pole and wires in the streets, on account of the excessive cost of underground work by the Edison Company, and in practically all cases the owners who opposed this change, finally agreed. This has resulted in improved lighting conditions in many residential sections.

In closing let me say the twenty-one members of the Newton Board of Aldermen are public spirited persons giving of their time and energy without compensation because of their belief that the interests of the city can be best maintained through service unrewarded financially. Their compensation comes through attempting to maintain the splendid example of government set by previous Boards through cooperation with the Mayor and other City of Newton officials.

CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
MR. HARLAN W. KINGSBURY,
CHIEF SANITARY OFFICER
OF THE NEWTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT

February 20, 1950

Good afternoon to you, Bill:

Another Monday is at hand, for our 26th Broadcast of this Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint the citizenry of Newton with various operations within the Newton City Government.

This afternoon we are presenting Mr. Harlan W. Kingsbury, Chief Sanitation Officer of the Newton Health Department.

Mr. Kingsbury graduated from the University of Massachusetts and majored in Dairy Science and Bacteriology.

His experiences are many in his chosen field inasmuch as he has served as a Laboratory Technician and Manager and Pasteurizer in a milk plant---also, as a District Sanitary Officer with the State Health Department. In the latter position Mr. Kingsbury covered 51 cities and towns in the Commonwealth developing programs of inspection and sanitary control of milk, food and environment.

Mr. Kingsbury's major hobby is flying. He has 130 solo hours, as an amateur, to his credit, and flies week-ends and holidays around New England.

He has organized a flying club of thirty-five male and female fliers, and they have built their own airport.

Today, Mr. Kingsbury, in person, will present a most interesting story as he acquaints the citizens of Newton with some of the little known activities of the Newton Health Department, especially the Sanitary Inspection Division.

Bill, it is my privilege to present to you and through you to our WCRB radio audience, Mr. Harlan W. Kingsbury, Chief Sanitation Officer of the City of Newton.

Next week, bill, at the same hour, we will present Dr. Lewis C. Robbins, Medical Officer in charge of Newton Heart Demonstration Program.



WCRB RADIO BROADCAST
MR. HARLAN W. KINGSBURY,
CHIEF SANITARY OFFICER
OF THE NEWTON HEALTH DEPARTMENT

February 20, 1950

MR. KINGSBURY: Thank you, Bill Sherman. It is a pleasure to be on your program and I welcome this opportunity to tell the people of Newton about some of the little-known activities of their Health Department, especially the Sanitary Inspection Division.

Our job in this division is to see that Newton's 80,000 odd citizens receive clean wholesome food to eat, safe milk to drink, pure water to use and healthy environment in which to live. This is a large order and requires a lot of work, but I find it so interesting and diversified that the work never becomes monotonous.

BILL SHERMAN: That is a large responsibility, Mr. Kingsbury. Do you have help with your work?

MR. KINGSBURY: Yes. Most of the work is done by three sanitary inspectors and a laboratory technician who is also a qualified inspector. I consider myself very fortunate to have four well trained men with whom to work. Most of them are college graduates. Each inspector has full responsibility for one third of the city. He makes all the inspections, takes all the samples and investigates all the complaints in his district. His work includes all problems of milk, food and general sanitation.

BILL SHERMAN: Let us start with food. Just for an example, how do you inspect a restaurant, and how often do you do it?

MR. KINGSBURY: We inspect all the eating and drinking establishments of Newton once a month, Mr. Sherman. We use a score sheet which lists twenty-three items. This score sheet was adapted from the one recommended by the United States Public Health Service. If upon inspection, all the items on this score sheet are found satisfactory, the restaurant will score 100%. However, each item found unsatisfactory deducts its relative value from this score. For example: if improper dishwashing methods are found, fifteen points are deducted from the restaurant's rating. Lack of handwashing facilities would penalize five points and so on down the list. Several years ago the State Health Department surveyed Newton's eating facilities using this same score sheet. At that time the city as a whole scored 86.7 which was the highest in Massachusetts. We are proud of this score and have now set our goal as 90% or better.

BILL SHERMAN: What do you do if it is not clean?

MR. KINGSBURY: If an establishment is not clean, or does not meet our requirements in any way, we call the proprietor's attention to the correction which must be made. We explain the public health reasons for these corrections and even roll up our sleeves and show the proprietor how to carry out our instructions. Our inspectors are no longer the rough and tough type of the olden days. Instead, the modern inspection method is the use of education and demonstration. If this method does not bring the desired results we then invite the offender to a conference with Dr. Morris, our Director of Health. Here we politely explain what must be done. If this conference fails to bring compliance, our next step is court action. Newton proprietors of food establishments are sanitation conscious and have been very cooperative; consequently, court action was resorted to only four times during my three years as Chief Sanitary Officer.

In addition to visual inspections, bacterial counts are taken from glasses, cups, spoons, and forks in all establishments once a month.

BILL SHERMAN: Why do you choose these utensils, Mr. Kingsbury? Why not knives, plates and saucers?

MR. KINGSBURY: We choose these utensils, Mr. Sherman, because they are the ones which go in and out of peoples mouths. Therefore, they can carry a disease from one person to another thru their medium. One certainly would not use another's toothbrush and from a public health standpoint it is just as bad to use another's teaspoon unless it is previously sanitized. All these bacteria tests are made in the Health Department laboratory at City Hall. The results are published in the Health Department Bulletin, YOUR HEALTH. This bulletin may be obtained by Newton residents by calling the Health Department.

Food establishments such as bakeries, meat and fish markets, grocery stores, ice cream factories, food wagons, bottling plants and others are inspected as often as possible, at least ten times a year. These food stores are also rated and must comply with our food laws. Whenever our inspectors find food unfit for consumption it is condemned and made unfit for use by pouring ammonia or soapy water over it so it cannot be retrieved and used.

BILL SHERMAN: You mentioned milk, Mr. Kingsbury. Just how do you go about protecting Newton milk supply?

MR. KINGSBURY: Milk inspection is a very important part of our program. It takes approximately one third of our time. Milk is our most valuable food, yet the most perishable and dangerous. It is a good food for man and also bacteria; therefore, we must be very careful about its production and distribution. All milk sold in Newton must be pasteurized in order to kill disease producing bacteria. We also require that the day of the week the milk was pasteurized be stamped on the bottle cap. This is to prevent the re-sale of returned milk or milk four or five days old.

There are twenty-eight dealers delivering milk in Newton. Their pasteurizing plants are inspected regularly and the operators required to comply with all milk regulations. We never hesitate to take the machinery entirely apart in any plant to insure cleanliness. If dirty equipment is found, no milk is allowed to be processed until the machinery is cleaned.

Newton's milk supply comes from Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Each inspector takes his turn to visit the receiving stations of this area to inspect.

BILL SHERMAN: Why do you travel so far? Why don't you wait until the milk arrives in Newton before you test it?

MR. KINGSBURY: The milk must be tested at this up-country point because it is here that bloody milk, sour milk, dirty milk, and diseased milk can be found and rejected before it is mixed with the supply shipped to Newton. Finding poor milk in a bottle when it is delivered on a Newton doorstep is too late, for then the milk is already in the hands of the consumer.

There are many tests that can be made on milk at the receiving stations. The sediment test shows the amount of foreign matter in the milk. Temperature tests shows whether or not the milk will keep. Milk can inspections reveal dirty, broken or rusty cans which will contaminate the milk. These cans are condemned and removed by the inspector. Microscopic examination, however, is our best judge of the quality of milk. When milk is examined under the microscope, the amount and type of bacterial contamination can be seen. All Newton inspectors are trained to use the microscope. When ever the inspector finds any of these violations, he returns the milk to the farmer with the polite suggestion that he feed it to his chickens or pigs because it may not be shipped to Newton.

Our inspectors do not have much time to inspect individual farms. This work is done by the State Health Department. However, if trouble persists on any farm, our inspectors have the authority to inspect and exclude them if necessary.

BILL SHERMAN: This sounds like interesting work. I imagine your inspectors are kept very busy. Do they have other problems besides food and milk control?

MR. KINGSBURY: Yes, Mr. Sherman, there is another phase which I call environmental sanitation. It includes problems concerning water supply, bathing beaches, nuisances, cesspools, public toilets, poultry yards, insect, rodent, and mosquito control.

Our laboratory analyzes fifteen samples of Newton's drinking water weekly to make sure it is safe. Six of these are from the raw supply and the other nine are from the treated supply taken in nine sections of the city. Our inspectors also sample Newton's bathing areas weekly during the summer. If the tests show the water unsafe for swimming, the Recreation Department is notified and that particular bathing area is posted and swimming is prohibited. In the past, swimming areas along the Charles River have been generally unsatisfactory. We have been forced to keep them closed most of the time. Considerable work has been done by your Health Department and the State Health Department recently to eliminate factory wastes and private sewers from entering this stream. Accordingly we hope that the Charles River will in the near future be safe for bathing. Tests taken on Crystal Lake are almost invariably satisfactory. The YMCA pool is also tested all year round and has had an excellent record.

Nuisances concerning garbage, rubbish, dumps, and sewers continue to be Health Department headaches. The American Public seems to have the bad habit of throwing refuse on streets, in alleys and on vacant lots. It is often necessary to take pictures as evidence to force the cleaning up of some of these areas. We could use a great deal more cooperation from businessmen and citizens to prevent such fly, rat, and mosquito breeding health hazards. Over four hundred permits to keep poultry are issued yearly by the Health Department. Many of these require an inspection and a consultation with the neighbors before permits can be granted. All public toilets in gas stations and railroad stations must be maintained in sanitary conditions. We consider sanitary conditions in schools very important; therefore, toilets, lavatory facilities, and showers are inspected in our Newton schools twice a year. Just one more duty to add to the inspector's already long list, is to inspect the undertaking parlors. These must be maintained almost as clean as hospital operating rooms because there is considerable chance of spreading disease through this profession. All undertaking parlors are licensed by the Health Department.

So you see, Mr. Sherman, the life of a sanitary inspector is never dull. From chasing bacteria to being chased by a farmer's bull is all in a day's work.

BILL SHERMAN: I can see what you mean. What about mosquito control? Do you do that also?

MR. KINGSBURY: No, we do not, but we see that it is done. Newton's mosquito control is done by the East Middlesex Control Unit which is a cooperative project of ten surrounding cities and towns. It operates under the state reclamation board and is in charge of Robert L. Armstrong who is an expert in this work. All Newton's mosquito breeding areas are noted on a map of which there is a copy in my office. These areas are sprayed as often as necessary to prevent the breeding of mosquitos. This is done by hand from motorcycle, jeep, boat, airplane or helicopter. So, if you see a low flying airplane over a Newton swamp next summer, do not become alarmed for it will probably be the Mosquito Control Unit doing it's work and not a crash landing. One of Newton's biggest contributions toward mosquito control work in this vicinity was the installation of a pump to drain Purgatory and Scribner swamps. It is in the mud of these swamps that the most ferocious biting mosquito, the Mansonia Peturbans, breed. Another item which is an important part of our mosquito control is the spraying of Newton's six thousand street catch basins. This is done three times every summer and is done by a motorcycle spray unit.

So, Mr. Sherman, this is briefly what keeps our sanitary inspectors busy and may I add that we show many visitors and school classes through our office and laboratory at City Hall. We welcome them at any time.



PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

February 27, 1950

Greetings, Bill:

This is the 27th Broadcast in this Series of Informational Programs, designed to acquaint the Newton citizenry with various governmental operations.

This afternoon, we are presenting Dr. Lewis C. Robbins, Surgeon, on loan from the U. S. Public Health Service.

Dr. Robbins graduated from Indiana University School of Medicine, in June, 1935. He served his Internship and Residency in Medicine with the Methodist Hospital, Indianapolis, Indiana during 1936 and 1937.

He received his degree as Master of Public Health from John Hopkins University, School of Hygiene and Public Health in 1938. Dr. Robbins experiences are many in Public Health Administration. He was Acting Chief for the Bureau of Local Health Administration of the Indiana State Board of Health. Also, he was Director of the District Health Department in Indiana; Director of Wichita (City-County) Health Unit, at Wichita Falls, Texas, likewise Director of the San Antonio City Health Department, Texas. Our speaker was Consultant to U. S. Public Health Service, Cancer Control Program in Chicago and came to Newton City Hall two years ago as Medical Officer in Charge of the Newton Heart Demonstration Program, which in effect is a pilot study of the public health aspects of heart disease.

Today, Dr. Robbins, in person, will acquaint us with what they are doing in the Newton Heart Program to help protect and heal the citizens' hearts.

Bill, it is my happy privilege to present to you - - Dr. Lewis C. Robbins.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour we will present Mrs. Elizabeth K. Miller, Nursing Supervisor for the City of Newton Health Department. We prevailed upon Mrs. Miller to drop in here today for a quick "Hello". Mrs. Miller may I present Bill Sherman, Special Events Director of WCRB?

HEART DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM
DR. LEWIS C. ROBBINS, MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE

February 27, 1950

BILL SHERMAN: Hello, Dr. Robbins. Glad to have you with us this afternoon.

DR. ROBBINS: Glad to be here, Bill.

BILL SHERMAN: From what Harold Pilsbury has told us about you, it sounds as though being in the Public Health Service is one way of getting around the country.

DR. ROBBINS: That's not a bad observation, Bill. But believe me, when we come to a community like Newton, we're mighty glad to be able to stay awhile.

BILL SHERMAN: How long do you expect to be here?

DR. ROBBINS: That's sort of hard to say. Maybe another two or three years. Partly it depends on how long the community wants, or can use our help in establishing a heart program. Perhaps a little background explanation of the Heart Demonstration Program will help you understand what I mean.

BILL SHERMAN: Good idea. For one thing, Dr. Robbins, I'm kind of curious about that word "demonstration". Newton Heart Demonstration Program! That's quite a mouthful of title.

DR. ROBBINS: Yes, but the word "demonstration" explains the Public Health Service interest in a community heart program. For a long time heart disease has been called a public health problem. I don't have to tell you how much heart disease there is throughout the country, nor what that means in terms of individual, family and community hardship. But until recently, not enough was known about causes and about prevention to attempt any kind of organized preventive program.

BILL SHERMAN: Does that mean that more is known today?

DR. ROBBINS: We certainly don't have all the answers, but there's a lot more optimism. Medical research of the last 10 or 20 years turned up some valuable information. The 64 dollar question was--how could this information be put to work for the control of heart diseases? Nobody would know until it was demonstrated by at least one community.

BILL SHERMAN: And that's Newton's job...

DR. ROBBINS: Right!

BILL SHERMAN: Was there any special reason why Newton was singled out for the task?

DR. ROBBINS: There sure was! Newton wasn't just picked at random off a U. S. map. First, Dr. Getting, the State Health Officer, invited the Public Health Service to locate the Program in Massachusetts. With the cooperation of the State Department of Health and the Massachusetts Medical Society, a Public Health Nurse and I investigated possible sites for the Demonstration. Newton was chosen for a host of reasons. Primarily because of the interest shown by local people responsible for health and welfare, and because of the excellence of its health facilities. We've been glad of the choice ever since.

BILL SHERMAN: When did the Program get started here?

DR. ROBBINS: That's an easy one. May 17, 1948. At least that's the day when the unit was officially assigned to Dr. Morris, Newton's Health Officer. The Program itself is still not completely underway. In many respects it's still in the planning stage. I suppose you could say that the Program really got started when the Cardiac Program Committee was formed.

BILL SHERMAN: What's the Cardiac Program Committee?

DR. ROBBINS: It's the medical advisory committee. On it are six physicians, all members of the Newton-Wellesley Hospital Staff. The Committee and its subcommittees have been working out the medical aspects of the Heart Program since a year ago last December, and I'm sure you understand how important their job is.

BILL SHERMAN: Yes, I can certainly see what a valuable contribution such a Committee would make to a community heart program. But what happened between the time you came to Newton and the time this Committee was formed?

DR. ROBBINS: Bill, you sound like a worried taxpayer! After all, we had to get used to our office first. Seriously, though, things were happening. For one, Dr. Morris and I were working with the Public Health Committee of the Newton Medical Club. A small survey of the needs of Newton's cardiac patients was made and on the basis of its results, the Public Health Committee outlined possible avenues of approach. Once this was done, the Cardiac Program Committee was formed to help the Health Department with further and more detailed study of the possibilities. Also, during this time we surveyed the community to learn what resources were already available to help cardiac patients. Both surveys gave us an idea of the kind of specialized personnel that would be helpful in carrying out a heart program. Another thing we did during those first months was organize a course to help acquaint the staff and state and local health and welfare workers with the public health aspects of heart disease.

BILL SHERMAN: O. K. I'm satisfied. I can see you were busy and that these were all necessary preliminaries. What about that course in the Public Health Aspects of Heart Disease? Is that the Newton Postgraduate Heart Institute? I've seen several notices of Institute meetings in the local papers.

DR. ROBBINS: No...as I mentioned, the course in the Public Health Aspects of Heart Disease was for public health workers--and by the way, this proved so popular that it was repeated last year and also given in Boston as a one day symposium for health and welfare people from all over the state. As for the Postgraduate Heart Institute, that's for local practising physicians. It's a series of lectures in modern cardiology, given once a month under the auspices of the Cardiac Program Committee. They're held at the Newtonville Library and are open, free of charge, to all physicians practising in Newton. It's one of the few activities out of the pilot study stage. A committee on professional education was one of the first sub-committees appointed by the Cardiac Program Committee. You see, cardiac research has been stepped up to such an extent that it is very difficult for the busy practitioner to keep up with all the latest improvements in diagnosis and treatment. The cardiologists, the specialists in heart disease do because that's their main job. But most people, when they have a slight pain or an ache, don't go to a cardiologist.

BILL SHERMAN: No, of course not. I'd go to my family doctor.

DR. ROBBINS: Yes, and as the Committee saw it, the need was not to make all doctors cardiologists, but to supplement their scientific reading with lectures by men who are.

BILL SHERMAN: Has the Institute proved popular?

DR. ROBBINS: Yes it has, Bill. Usually about 40 or 50 physicians attend each lecture. You see the doctors themselves decided what subject matter would be most helpful to them, and in turn, to their patients. They were particularly concerned with getting more information, and I mean practical information, about rheumatic, hypertensive and coronary heart disease. These are the big three among the 20 varieties of heart disease known to occur. They account for almost 90% of all cases. Men like Dr. Paul White, Dr. Howard Sprague, Dr. T. Duckett Jones and Dr. Sam Levine have appeared. These are really blue ribbon names in the field of cardiology.

BILL SHERMAN: Yes, I would say so! Who arranges for the lectures, Dr. Robbins?

DR. ROBBINS: That's part of the staff's job, working under the direction of the Cardiac Program Committee. Besides myself, there are two Public Health physicians working on the Program. After the physician's committee indicates the speaker and the material to be covered, one of us gets in touch with the man, first by letter, then by 'phone. All of the lectures and the questions that follow are taken down on a wire recorder. Later they are summarized by one of the staff physicians, duplicated by a member of our clerical staff and sent out to all physicians on the mailing list.

BILL SHERMAN: My gosh, I never realized all this went on. That surely sounds wonderful. But tell me, Dr. Robbins, are you planning a comparable program for the education of us common citizens who have nothing but our tickers to qualify us for a part in the Program?

DR. ROBBINS: That's where the Newton Community Council comes in.

BILL SHERMAN: You mean they're in on the Program, too?

DR. ROBBINS: Yes indeed! Since the end of last year the Council has had a Steering Committee planning and implementing some of the non-medical aspects of the Program. At this point the Council is particularly concerned with setting up a Heart Disease Screening Program for the entire community. The Council will devote its Annual Meeting this year to discussing possible ways of carrying out these screening activities. The Meeting, which will be open to the public, is scheduled for April 27th, at the Newton YMCA.

BILL SHERMAN: It seems to me I heard something about the people over at Rose-Derry having a heart screening test not so long ago.

DR. ROBBINS: Yes, they did. So did the folks here at City Hall. These were both pilot studies planned by the Cardiac Program Committee's subcommittee on case-finding. They wanted to see whether or not we could arrive at some simple method for examining large numbers of apparently healthy people in order to find those who might have heart disease. The object, of course, is to get such people to their doctors for early diagnosis and treatment.

BILL SHERMAN: I take it you were able to arrive at a simple method if the Community Council is now trying to see how it can be applied to everyone in Newton.

DR. ROBBINS: Yes, the Program is progressing. And from the results the staff statistician has shown us we're quite optimistic about the possibilities.

BILL SHERMAN: I shall look forward to having a heart screening examination myself.

DR. ROBBINS: Don't be too anxious, Bill. It will probably be several more months before it really starts rolling.

BILL SHERMAN: I guess I can wait. Are there any other organized groups working with the Health Department on the Heart Program?

DR. ROBBINS: I don't know if you'd call them organized groups or not, but there definitely is a lot of cooperation. For example, we've had a staff nutritionist for over a year. She's helping the Nutrition Sub-Committee of the Cardiac Program Committee carry on pilot studies to determine how best to apply the new knowledge of dietary treatment for heart disease. In most of these studies she has worked right along with the Dietitians of Newton-Wellesley Hospital. One of our two nurses with special training in heart disease is working as a regular staff member of the District Nursing Association, helping them see how service for cardiac patients can be integrated with their regular nursing program. Just last month a cardiac nursing advisory committee was formed. It includes representatives from all community agencies that offer nursing services. The Newton Dental Club is another group participating in program planning.

BILL SHERMAN: Did you say the Dental Club?

DR. ROBBINS: That's right, Bill. Some of the work that dentists do, such as pulling teeth or scaling is known to be dangerous for persons whose heart valves are damaged or deformed. Today, with proper doses of penicillin at the time of extraction or scaling, the danger is reduced to almost zero. So you see, dentists also have a responsibility in a community heart program. They're meeting it by planning, together with a Medical Committee, a program for the prevention of subacute bacterial endocarditis. That's the word for the trouble that could develop. It occurs infrequently, but before penicillin it was nearly always fatal.

BILL SHERMAN: I imagine before long we'll be hearing more about this Committee's work.

DR. ROBBINS: Yes, Bill. In another few months we'll probably have much more to tell not only about this Committee but about the Heart Program in general.

BILL SHERMAN: Well, thanks very much, Dr. Robbins.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

March 6, 1950

Hello again, Bill:

Another Monday is at hand for our 28th Broadcast in this Series of Informational Programs, over WCRB, designed to acquaint the citizenry of Newton with various operations within the Newton City Government.

This afternoon, we are presenting Mrs. Elizabeth K. Miller, Supervisor of Newton Public Health Nursing.

Our speaker is a native of Newton and was educated in the Newton Public Schools. In addition to a business training at the Hickox Secretarial School, Mrs. Miller graduated from the Newton Hospital Training School, for nurses, and later received the Post-Graduate Public Health Nursing Certificate from Simmons College.

Mrs. Miller was employed as a Staff Public Health Nurse by the Newton Health Department from 1929 to 1942. Also, our speaker served in the Army Nurse Corps in the South Pacific and China-Burma-India Theater during World War II. Upon reverting to an inactive status Mrs. Miller emerged with the rank of Captain.

Since her overseas experience, Mrs. Miller has been engaged as an assistant in Cancer Research . . . office nurse for a Boston ear, nose and throat specialist . . . and Head Nurse and Night Supervisor at the Cushing V. A. Hospital in Framingham.

Fortunately, for us, Mrs. Miller was induced to return to the Newton Health Department in January of 1948 as Supervisor of Nursing.

Bill, we are particularly pleased and we are privileged to present to you this afternoon our first lady speaker in this Series. Mrs. Elizabeth K. Miller, Supervisor of Newton Public Health Nursing has a most exciting and informative story to reveal, to our listeners. Mrs. Miller, may I present you to the Special Events Director of Radio Station WCRB, Bill Sherman who has anxiously looked forward to this opportunity to interview you.

For our 29th Broadcast next week, Bill, at the same hour, we will present Dr. Edward Landy, Director of the Division of Counseling Services of the Newton Public Schools.

NEWTON PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING
MRS. ELIZABETH K. MILLER, SUPERVISOR

March 6, 1950

BILL SHERMAN: Hello, Mrs. Miller. It's nice to have you here today. As "one of the women in white" you are doubly welcome.

MRS. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Sherman. I mustn't sail under false colors, though. I'm really one of the women in blue. You see, the navy blue uniform with its white collar is a symbol of public health nursing and that is the uniform worn by the Newton Public Health Nurse.

BILL SHERMAN: How many nurses are there in the Health Department?

MRS. MILLER: There are nine staff nurses and one nursing supervisor. Each nurse is responsible for a generalized nursing service in her district.

BILL SHERMAN: How are these districts arranged, Mrs. Miller?

MRS. MILLER: The City is divided into nine districts. While the division is based more or less upon the school population, other health factors are considered as well. Most everyone is familiar with their own Public Health Nurse, but I think I'll take this opportunity to mention them by name: Miss Myra Dority, Miss Mary A. Welch, Mrs. Maud Kemp, Miss Lillian Regan, Miss Martha McLean, Miss Edna Moore, Mrs. Smith Packer, Miss Letitia Doten, and Miss Evelyn MacBey.

BILL SHERMAN: You speak of a generalized nursing service. Just what does that mean, Mrs. Miller?

MRS. MILLER: I'm glad to answer that question, Mr. Sherman. Many people refer to the Public Health Nurse as the "school nurse." They don't realize that the school health program, while a very important one, is still only one of their many functions. Back in 1910, however, the first nurse appointed did work more or less only in the schools. Her work proved to be so valuable that other schools soon requested that a nurse be detailed to visit them. Since that time, one program after another has been constantly added to keep up with ever-growing community needs.

BILL SHERMAN: What are these other programs?

MRS. MILLER: Well, besides the field of public and parochial schools, and incidentally, we have 27 public and 4 parochial schools - the nursing program includes also preschool, adult, handicapped, tuberculosis, and other communicable diseases, health education, mental hygiene and nutrition. The nurses are responsible, too, for clinic service in the tuberculosis, immunization and dental clinics, and for the preschool conferences.

BILL SHERMAN: Are all these services which you mention available to all the residents in Newton?

MRS. MILLER: Indeed they are, Mr. Sherman, available to everyone in the City without regard to financial status, with the one exception of dental clinic service, and this is offered only to families who can't afford private dental care. In this case, the nurse determines the eligibility of the family before making dental appointments.

BILL SHERMAN: The nurses seem to have a wide variety of duties.

MRS. MILLER: Yes, that's true. Each nurse in the Newton Health Department has more responsibility and a broader scope of work than will be found in any other community in Massachusetts. And in order to give constant good service in her district, each nurse must own a car. You see the Public Nurse is no longer the same person that she was four decades ago - a messenger of mercy only - sent into the homes of a few of the poor to care for the sick. Now, whether the home is the usual average, comfortable one or whether it bears one of the best addresses in the City, the nurse is always ready to make some helpful suggestion to those who seek her aid. She knows all the community resources and she has the ability and stick-to-it-iveness to get things done. She's the trained specialist in her field. It's her job in all her relationships with adults and children, not only to help them obtain good health but to help them keep it as well.

BILL SHERMAN: What kind of training must the Newton Public Health Nurse have?

MRS. MILLER: First, the nurses must be graduates of an approved hospital training school. They must be registered in Massachusetts and must qualify under Civil Service appointment. In addition, all the nurses of the Department have taken Post-Graduate study in Public Health Nursing. This amounts to at least four years of professional preparation beyond high school. Also, in order to keep up to public health nursing standards and public health research today, study must be constant and in-service education is required. Besides the professional preparation, though, there are some other very essential qualities that a Public Health Nurse must have.

BILL SHERMAN: I suppose that's - as Dale Carnegie would express it - "knowing how to get along with people."

MRS. MILLER: Yes - mighty important - when one considers that the Public Health Nurse is the liaison between the school, the home, and the community. She's the link, too, between the family physician and the Health Department and the family and the community agency. I was thinking also of her teaching ability. While the Public Health Nurse is not a teacher perhaps in the formal sense of the word, her every thought and concern is to bring new and needed health information to the family. It is often the informal type of teaching - for example - demonstrating nursing care in a communicable disease case.

BILL SHERMAN: Does the Health Department Nurse give bedside care?

MRS. MILLER: No, this nursing service is efficiently done by the Newton District Nursing Association - a Community Chest agency - and they are also responsible for maternal hygiene and infant care. At the age of two years the children followed by their association are referred to the Health Department for follow-up and preschool conference appointments.

BILL SHERMAN: I think I have a little clearer picture in my mind now of the Public Health Nurse and her duties, but I wonder how she works all these activities into an 8 hour day.

MRS. MILLER: She won't work all the activities in every day. Just to make it a bit more clear, suppose I give you a sample day.

BILL SHERMAN: Good!

MRS. MILLER: Well, let us say that 8:30 in the morning finds Miss Public Health Nurse at one of the schools she covers, helping the school doctor in the morning inspection of pupils coming back to school after illness. After the doctor goes she is busy doing one or two first aid treatments - perhaps a cut finger or taking care of a bleeding nose - all the while being careful to tell little Johnny or Mary just why and how we treat the cut or sore. The principal next asks for a report on a call made the previous day on a child sick with rheumatic fever. The nurse has much information on the youngster, his

care and treatment, and she has been able to help the family improve the nursing care at home and has interpreted the doctor's orders to the family. Next the nurse makes ready for the annual physical examination of fifteen children in kindergarten who have been previously scheduled, and to which the parents have been invited.

BILL SHERMAN: So parents are invited to these medical examinations. Do many attend?

MRS. MILLER: Indeed, yes. Newton parents are much interested in the health of their children and show a very notable response to invitations to attend the physical examinations. Last year over 81 per cent of the kindergarten children were accompanied to the examination by parents. Usually it's the mother, but occasionally the father comes too. Well, to continue with the remainder of the morning. The nurse finds time to re-test the eyes of a third grade child, first screened by the teacher. She finds that the child will need the attention of an eye specialist and with the assistance of the teacher a report of the test will be sent to the parent with any other symptoms of eye-strain noted.

BILL SHERMAN: Doesn't the nurse have any regular office hours?

MRS. MILLER: Office hours are kept in the Health Department office from 1-2 P. M. The nurse then writes up her records, collects calls which have come in in the morning and makes out her afternoon schedule for home visiting if she is not due to attend a clinic. She also uses this time to discuss any special problems which may have arisen in the nursing office or get advice from Dr. Morris, our Director of Public Health, on some regulation. Shortly after 2 P. M. the nurse may be found visiting a new tuberculosis case.

BILL SHERMAN: Just what would be the duty of the nurse in visiting these tuberculosis cases?

MRS. MILLER: She would first contact the doctor who reported the tuberculosis case to the Health Department and give help, if needed, in interpreting his orders to the patient and family. She would help the family to provide good nursing care for the patient. Since tuberculosis is a communicable disease, she would demonstrate the proper technique to both the patient and family to prevent its spread. This would include instruction in such matters as disposal of sputum, boiling of dishes, care of linen, and etc. Among other things she helps the patient to gain a hopeful and optimistic attitude toward the disease while waiting to enter the sanatorium. The family, through their physician, is told of the X-ray facilities at the Diagnostic Clinic, and appointments for X-ray would be made. The next visit is to a preschool child whose mother is having difficulty with him in meal-planning. Arrangements are made to have the child visit the preschool conference, where besides a thorough physical examination by a pediatrician and a dental examination, the parent can discuss the youngster's food habits and diet with the nutritionist. The Public Health Nurse will, of course, assist the mother after the conference in carrying out suggestions made by the nutritionist.

BILL SHERMAN: I can now see from what you have said that public health is really for the Community and not for just a few, as in years ago.

MRS. MILLER: Yes, Public Health Nursing is really family health supervision and not just supervision of the individual case. Now to go on the remaining calls for the day. These may range from bringing information on diphtheria immunization to the mother of a kindergartner, and explaining the need for a "booster dose", to perhaps assisting someone who needs help on a low sodium diet which has been ordered by the doctor. Just sample calls in a usual Public Health Nursing day.

BILL SHERMAN: From your sample day, I can see that the Public Health Nurse is as necessary to a good health program as the typewriter and telephone in a business.

MRS. MILLER: Yes, and the Public Health Nurse feels necessary - as a salesman of health. She feels a great deal of satisfaction, too, in helping people live happier, healthier and more productive lives. A little poem expresses it this way:

"There's a destiny that makes us brothers
No one goes his way alone
But all that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own."

BILL SHERMAN: Thank you for coming today, Mrs. Miller, and for your information about the Newton Health Department Public Health Nurse. There's only one trouble with the Public Health Nurse that I can see - and that is that there are too few of her!

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

March 13, 1950

Greetings, Bill:

Yes, this is the 29th Broadcast in this Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint our citizens with operations within the Newton City Government.

This afternoon, we will present Dr. Edward Landy, Director, Division of Counseling Services, Newton Public Schools.

Our speaker started as a science teacher in 1931 in the Quincy Schools. After a few years, he became counselor and then Head Counselor at the North Quincy High School. Dr. Landy then became principal of the Abington (Massachusetts) High School in 1937. During 1939-1940 he conducted The Occupational Adjustment Study for the National Association of Secondary School Principals which, incidentally, was financed by a Rockefeller grant. In 1941 our speaker moved on to Montclair, New Jersey, as Director of Guidance. During World War II he served as Operations Analyst with the Army Air Forces, returning to Montclair in 1946.

It was in December, 1947 that Dr. Landy became identified with the Newton Schools. Our speaker obtained his Doctorate at Harvard University in 1942 - - - majoring in the field of guidance. He is the author of several books in this field and has published articles and reviews in several professional journals - - - is a member of the American Psychological Association and a Professional Member of the National Vocational Guidance Association.

It is my happy privilege to present to you, Bill, Dr. Edward Landy, Director, Division of Counseling Services, Newton Public Schools, whose experiences are manifold and who has a most informative and likewise educational message for the citizens of Newton. Doctor Landy, here's Bill Sherman, Special Events Director of Radio Station WCRB.

Next week, Bill, we will present Dr. James B. Palmer, Chairman of the Newton School Committee.

DIVISION OF COUNSELING SERVICES
NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DR. EDWARD LANDY, DIRECTOR

March 13, 1950

BILL SHERMAN: Director of the Division of Counseling Services sounds like an interesting job. Just what are some of your duties and responsibilities?

DR. LANDY: Perhaps first I had better explain just what our Division is charged with. We have a two-fold responsibility. The first is to exercise leadership for the guidance program throughout the public schools of Newton. The actual program itself is, of course, carried on in the schools by teachers, counselors, and principals. Our guidance program helps to meet certain special needs of all pupils as individuals. This program would require several hours of explanation but the educational and vocational counseling which helps pupils in the junior and senior high schools to make decisions regarding educational and vocational planning is one important example.

BILL SHERMAN: Perhaps we may have a few minutes later to go into your guidance program more in detail, but you mentioned a second responsibility. What is that?

DR. LANDY: The second responsibility is, in a sense, a corrective one as contrasted with the presentative views of the guidance program. It is to provide services of various kinds for individual pupils who, for one reason or another, may not be adjusting well to school life or who start off with certain handicaps which makes individual attention of some kind imperative for them. For example, with the aid of teacher-technicians in the school, Miss Macnutt, our hearing specialist in the Division of Counseling Services, conducts city-wide tests of hearing in grades 3 - 9. 6,297 pupils were tested in 1948-49 by means of group tests and we found 130 pupils with 15% loss of hearing in one or both ears. Incidentally there has been a steady decline to pupils with hearing impairment since the use of sulpha and penecillin. Miss Macnutt helps hard-of-hearing pupils with their hearing aids or lip-reading instruction or both. Our two speech counselors, Miss Kennedy and Mr. Wilson, survey the kindergarten-Grade 9 pupils for any speech defects - again with the cooperation of the teachers and principals. Our survey this fall showed 441 children with serious speech defects of one kind or another as stuttering, articulatory defects, etc. Miss Kennedy and Mr. Wilson of our Division provide these pupils with special speech therapy and also help teachers to work with other less serious cases. Our hearing and speech people cooperate to provide special auditory (or hearing) training for both speech and hearing cases.

BILL SHERMAN: Hearing and Speech certainly play an important part in school life. Are there other handicaps your Division is concerned about?

DR. LANDY: Oh yes! Many more. For example, Miss Maynard, our Supervisor of Special Education, is in my Division also. She is responsible for keeping records on all physically handicapped youngsters as rheumatic hearts, spastics, etc. She keeps the teachers and principals informed of who these children are and follows them along through school trying to make sure that they receive all the necessary individual attention possible. She is also responsible for supervising instruction for our so-called "home-bound" children who cannot come to school because of certain physical handicaps or illness. We had 254 handicapped children last year needing special consideration and 30 pupils received instruction at home. She is responsible also for the school work carried on at the New England Peabody Home for Crippled Children. Miss Maynard is consultant, also, for the work done in our helping classes throughout the City, of which there are 7. These are special classes for helping pupils who are academically falling behind for one reason or another. The children in these classes may be naturally slow learners or emotionally upset children who need special handling.

BILL SHERMAN: What about children who have difficulty with reading? Isn't that pretty important?

DR. LANDY: Very much so. Of course, we depend upon the regular classroom teacher to carry this load almost entirely, because the teaching of reading is a specialty of each class-room teacher in the elementary schools. However, we do have a specialist in reading, Miss Torrant, who works with very difficult reading problems when these children are referred to my office for special help. Reading difficulties may stem from a whole host of complex reasons and so children with reading difficulties may be given other special help as well, such as our psychological counselors can provide, which we call psychotherapy.

BILL SHERMAN: That sounds like a five-dollar word, psychotherapy. What do you mean by that?

DR. LANDY: We find some children who are not adjusting well in school, either socially or academically, and the major problem seems to rest with the emotional maladjustment of the child. When the school and parents agree, the child is referred to our office for help in this area. We are fortunate to have Dr. Warren Vaughn, as our visiting psychiatrist who helps us with our work in this field. He works with all of our staff, but in particular, he helps our two psychological counselors, Miss Denault, and Mrs. Naka, who are trained psychologists and who are mainly responsible for the psychotherapy work with children. We may in turn refer parents to clinics, private psychiatrist, the local Family Service Bureau, hospitals, etc. for further help. Our two psychologists, Miss Denault and Mrs. Naka, also carry the main burden of giving individual, clinical psychological tests of ability and personality. These are used chiefly for diagnostic purposes when we want to find out whether a child is doing as well as we might reasonably expect him to do or to try to find out what might be troubling him and preventing his doing as well as he could.

BILL SHERMAN: Well, that sounds like a pretty full load

DR. LANDY: Oh yes, and I shouldn't forget to mention that Mr. Angino, the Supervisor of Attendance, is in our Division also. This means, of course, that it makes it easier for us to try to treat our attendance problem on a preventative, corrective basis rather than a punitive one.

BILL SHERMAN: I suppose you are kept pretty busy managing these adjustment services?

DR. LANDY: Yes. And in addition, of course, I have the responsibility for exercising leadership in the over-all guidance program in the schools of which I spoke before. In my spare time, I try to work with a few cases myself, run several faculty workshops where we study problems of child growth and development, and act as consultant to several parent workshops in the same area. I am particularly interested in the faculty and parent workshops because I believe very strongly in early detection and prevention. All of our workers on my staff feel the same way and we are always trying to reduce through preventive methods, the case load that comes to our office.

BILL SHERMAN: Could we come back to the guidance. You said something about being responsible for exercising leadership for it and about it being preventative rather than corrective. What do you mean by preventative rather than corrective?

DR. LANDY: Well, for example, a 9th **grade** pupil must make some pretty important choices of subjects when he moves on into **grade X**. He must decide whether he wants to be in a college, industrial arts, commercial, or general curriculum. He must decide upon electives within these curriculums. His decisions ought to be in harmony with his own interests and abilities and ought to take into account family attitudes and finances. We do not believe in having 9th grade pupils select a career to aim for, but we do believe that they should understand that entering a particular curriculum in the high school does have certain implications for post-high school education or work. Unwise choices may result in later

discouragement and failure. We do not try to tell a pupil and his family what to choose but our counselors in the junior and senior high schools try to help the pupil arrive at the best possible decision on his own. The same is true of course about problems of entering the world of work or going on with further schooling after leaving high school. The guidance program at all levels emphasizes looking at the pupil as an individual and meeting his special needs. Of course, to some extent, this is synonymous with good teaching anyway, but the guidance program brings on extra emphasis to this looking at a pupil as an individual and special tools and techniques for so doing.

BILL SHERMAN: What might some of these special tools and techniques be?

DR. LANDY: The keeping of comprehensive cumulative records to help understand the pupil better is one. Included in these records are the results of objective or standardized tests of special aptitudes or abilities. The use of the individual interview in helping pupils make decisions is another. Following up our pupils after they leave us and go to work or to college is still another. There is value in this for what it teaches us for future dealing with pupils. The guidance program emphasizes looking at the child as a total individual in his total environment and thus understanding him better.

BILL SHERMAN: I am sorry to have to stop at this point as time is up. I know that in this brief time you have been able only to give a very brief explanation of your work.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

March 20, 1950

Good afternoon, Bill:

Once again it's Monday afternoon and time for our weekly Newton City Government Broadcast, and this week it's the 30th in our Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint our citizens with the operations of the government of Newton.

Our speaker today is Dr. James B. Palmer, Chairman of the Newton School Committee.

Dr. Palmer began his third two-year term on the School Committee in January at which time he was elected Chairman.

Western Pennsylvania is his birthplace but he has lived in Newton since 1936. Three of his four children have graduated from the Newton Public Schools, the youngest at present a member of the senior class at Newton High School.

Earning his bachelor's degree and doctorate at Cornell University, Dr. Palmer is not a stranger to public education. For 15 years he was associated with education as a teacher and administrator and has had experience on elementary, high school, teachers' college and university levels. Since that time his interest in education has been maintained through his vocation educational publishing. He is Editor-in-Chief of Ginn & Co., publishers in Boston.

Dr. Palmer's avocations are woodworking, traveling and music.

Bill, it's a distinct privilege to present to you, Dr. James B. Palmer, Chairman of the Newton School Committee.

Dr. Palmer, this is Bill Sherman, Special Events Director Radio Station WCRB.

Next week at the same time we will present Edward C. Keating, Chairman of the Public Welfare Board. Mr. Keating has dropped in this afternoon to say "Hello". Mr. Keating, may I present Bill Sherman.



RADIO BROADCAST - NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Monday, March 20, 1950

DR. JAMES B. PALMER, Chairman, Newton School Committee

QUESTION: How many children are there in the Newton Schools?

ANSWER: Certainly that is not a difficult question to answer at the moment. There are in all 11,856 children and young people. You see there are more than just children. Beginning with the oldest there are 100 young men and women in the Newton Junior College, the only institution of its kind in New England. Then there are 2,083 boys and girls in the senior high school, 306 in the Newton Trade School, 2,576 in junior high school, 6,795 in elementary school, and 1,006 in kindergarten.

QUESTION: You emphasized those words "at the moment." Evidently there is more to be said on that point.

ANSWER: Well, as of October 1, we had 350 more children in the schools this year than last. And our best estimate for the increase next year is 250. This will be the last year of small increase. Thereafter, our schools will increase far more rapidly than anything experienced to date. In this connection, we have taken on more than 100 additional children just since October.

QUESTION: How do you make your estimates?

ANSWER: Let me say first that estimating the number of children that have to be accommodated the next year is always important, but it becomes very essential when the enrollment is increasing rapidly. After all, there must be enough teachers, classrooms and desks for them. That requires planning well in advance.

QUESTION: I can see that, but how are the estimates actually made? Don't they have to be quite accurate?

ANSWER: Of course they must be accurate. Well, this past December, our Superintendent, Mr. Gores, enlisted the help of Chief of Police Purcell. Chief Purcell was willing to have his force take a census of all the children five years of age and under as they were checking over the voting list. Consequently, we now can figure, quite accurately, how many children will be entering kindergarten and first grade each year. Those figures are checked closely with other facts at hand, the new homes that have been and are being built, how many children will be brought in by these new families, the average migration into and out of the City, and so on. This gives us not only the number of children that must be accommodated next September, but we also know with reasonable accuracy in just what school district they will be.

QUESTION: Do you find the increase is located where you have the most room?

ANSWER: On the contrary. The largest numbers of children and the most increase in enrollment are coming in new sections where there are no buildings now, or where the buildings are already full. For just that reason alone the City of Newton has a large school building program well underway.

QUESTION: What do you mean, underway?

ANSWER: At the present time we are about to move children into necessary additions to the Ward School, the Franklin School, and into the New Williams School later this spring. All these accommodations will be fully occupied. Then, the new Memorial School is being rushed for occupancy next fall in Oak Hill Memorial Park.

QUESTION: Why the rush?

ANSWER: The facts are that there will be about 9 classrooms of children ready for school over there in Oak Hill Park next September, so you can see there is real urgency in the matter.

QUESTION: When is this urgency going to be over?

ANSWER: There is no certain answer to that question. I might answer it by asking another. When is the City of Newton going to stop growing? We do know, however, that before this current wave of high birth rate has passed through the schools in the 1950's, our school population may have exceeded 15,000. That calls for many more classrooms than we have now. Of course, this problem would be more disconcerting were it not for two facts. First, the building program is well underway. Plans for the buildings needed in 1951 are already in the blueprints. Second, we hope to have an annual census of the pre-school children so that the building program may be adjusted each year to be in full accord with the needs of the whole City and of each section.

QUESTION: While you are talking about new buildings, won't you say something about the need to replace some of the very old buildings in the City?

ANSWER: I'm not surprised that you raise that question because we have a number of buildings that are more than fifty years old. There is reason to think of replacing those as well as to house this increasing enrollment. The present building program includes such plans. No doubt the housing for additional children is of first importance, but replacing the oldest, outworn structures is likewise necessary. The heartening feature of the school building program, as it is laid out, is that while we pay first attention to the matter of supplying classrooms for growth of school population, at the same time several of the oldest buildings are being replaced.

QUESTION: If we are going to have a lot more children in the schools, we must also have more teachers. I've heard a lot about a shortage of teachers. Does that affect us here in Newton?

ANSWER: It certainly does. Newton has always been proud of the high quality of its teachers. There is real truth in the old adage "As is the teacher, so is the school." The present School Committee is firmly resolved to maintain the standard in Newton. The Superintendent and his staff are equally anxious to fill vacancies and new positions with the best teachers available. To get the best teachers we must keep Newton as a City and as a school system attractive to attract professional teachers. There are numerous conditions to be maintained. Not the least important is adequate salaries. We must recognize that Newton no longer pays the highest salaries in Massachusetts. We may not have to pay the highest salaries but we must at least be in a position to attract teachers of the quality we want to our schools.

QUESTION: Aren't the salaries for teachers already on our staff also important?

ANSWER: As a matter of fact they are more important. No citizens in any community begrudge good salaries for capable teachers. We in Newton can be justly proud of the excellent quality of our teaching staff, and by the same token we have a fine schedule of salaries. We can be proud of that also. If and when adjustments are needed, they should and, I trust, will be made.



QUESTION: Now we have talked about the increasing enrollment in our schools, the building program that is well underway, and the need for additional teachers. What about the quality of work in the schools? Are you satisfied with that?

ANSWER: That strikes me as the \$64 question. and indeed it is. The answer is both yes and no. Let me hasten to say yes again. There are few school systems in the United States, and I happen to be well informed in that matter, that are as good as the Newton schools. That is not due to mere chance. Newton has always had good schools because it has striven to have better schools. Schools don't stand still. Either they improve or they deteriorate. Only in the schools where the teachers are consciously striving to improve their work, do children have instruction of the highest quality. And so we can be pleased with the standard of work in the Newton schools, but we should be no more satisfied than the teachers are. We ought to have another hour to discuss the study groups, the professional interest, the curriculum developments in Newton, that are full assurance of a steadily improving program.

QUESTION: Well, that brings us close to the end of our time. Do you have just a few more words that you wish to say to your audience out there?

ANSWER: Yes, I want to express my appreciation of the opportunity to discuss the Newton schools here today. It is a privilege to serve with my colleagues on the Newton School Committee. We firmly believe that the children in Newton have the opportunity to live and learn in one of the finest school systems in the United States. It is the desire of all of us, I'm sure, to maintain that high quality. It is to that end that the members of the School Committee are glad to devote their time and their best thought to the policies and plans of the Newton School Department.

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

March 27, 1950

Hello again, Bill: --

Once again we present our weekly program, in fact, this is the 31st in our Series wherein we bring to the citizenry information relative to Newton City Government operations.

This afternoon, we present Mr. Edward C. Keating, Chairman of the Newton Public Welfare Board.

Our speaker was born in Hyde Park, Massachusetts and has resided in Newton for 30 years.

In the business world Mr. Keating is Treasurer and Trustee of the Wildey Savings Bank in Boston. He is also a Director of the Newton South Cooperative Bank.

His avocation indicates a keen interest in people inasmuch as his energies are directed toward the "needy" persons in our community.

To mention a few of Mr. Keating's interests he is President of the St. Vincent de Paul Conferences, Director of the Newton Community Chest and a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference of Newton Centre.

These rich experiences have filled Mr. Keating's reservoir to a respectably high level . . . the end result of which concerns the economic welfare of needy persons.

It is my happy privilege, Bill, to present to you and thru you to our radio audience, Mr. Edward C. Keating, Chairman of the Newton Welfare Board, who has a most informative and likewise educational message pertaining to the administration and costs of Newton Social Services.

Mr. Keating, here's Bill Sherman, your interviewer and the Special Events Director of Radio Station WCRB.

Next week at the same time we will have as our guest speaker Mr. William J. Doherty, Chairman of the Registrars of Voters.

RADIO BROADCAST - MARCH 27, 1950
NEWTON PUBLIC WELFARE BOARD
EDWARD C. KEATING, CHAIRMAN

Welfare is becoming such a common word that we even see it applied as an over-all pattern and called the Welfare State. I know of nothing more timely than a discussion of the Department of Public Welfare which has grown greatly in the last twenty years. The rapid increase in the work of the Department has made it difficult for the City to provide space and personnel to keep up with it.

This is caused by various factors to which I will briefly refer.

The simple needs of the horse and buggy days have been replaced by the more complex needs of the automobile era. Since the first World War, the welfare needs have changed from what were, to a considerable extent, taken care of on a somewhat neighborhood basis and by private charities to something that now requires participation by the City, State and Federal Government. Private charities have expanded into the Community Chest all trying to satisfy the demands (and social needs) for welfare.

QUESTION: Why is all this necessary?

Partly because of the decreased value of money or you might call it inflation. The purchasing power of the dollar fluctuates like a thermometer. In 1936 it was \$1.01; in 1938, \$1.13; and in 1948, \$.61. That means increased appropriations are required for the food, shelter, clothing and care of sickness. These may be classified as the necessities of life, but the auto age has created more wants for all of us and that is also apparent in the handling of welfare.

Before the 1920's, Welfare was a relief problem paid for by the local communities. There was then as now unemployment, sickness, death, evictions and other tragedies of the individual that so touches the hearts of all of us and has such an effect on our economy that we want to make it impossible to happen.

It took many years of agitation for additional coverage, but the depression of the 1930's gave it the drive that put so much legislation on the books. With it came Old Age Assistance and Aid for Dependent Children. These were integrated into the welfare program of the City or Town from above, first by the State and later by the Federal Government. It was obvious that the cost could not be absorbed by the community, so it was necessary for the State and Federal Government to impose taxes which could be distributed back to the local municipality.

I would like to bring out at this time that there is a basic difference between the sums raised by local taxation for distribution as General Relief and payments beginning at 65 under Social Security. Social Security is accumulated from the earnings of the wage earner until he retires at 65 plus like contributions by his employer. He then begins to receive a monthly income until he dies. This amount is determined not by his needs but rather by what he earned and the number of years he was employed. It is often less than what is received by a person on General Relief or Old Age Assistance who did not qualify for Social Security Benefits. The worker (in industry) is often poorly rewarded when we compare his retirement status with certain forms of relief.

QUESTION: Mr. Keating, "How does all this effect the cost of running the City of Newton?"

I assume that we all have an interest in the effect of the cost of welfare on the community.

Because of increased benefits and greater coverage, the cost of Welfare is climbing sharply year after year. The money needed for the Welfare Department is included in the budget submitted by the Mayor to the Board of Aldermen for their approval; however, by complying with certain requirements of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States Government, the Department is enabled to recover from them a part of the cost which has the effect of reducing the tax by the City.

The cost of running the Department for 1949 was \$1,128,000.00, broken down as follows:

O.A.A.	\$696,600.
A.D.C.	217,100.
General Relief	92,500.
Other Relief	66,000.
Administrative	54,700.

This was 12 1/3% of the entire cost of running the City, which was \$9,145,300. In Boston, the cost of welfare for 1949 was over \$17,000,000 which was almost twice the cost of running the entire City of Newton. I am just bringing out these figures because all the things we want - all the things that are desirable are in the long run dependent on our ability to pay. To ignore this leads to inflation and the decreasing value of money which, after all, is only a medium of exchange and not in itself wealth. Furthermore, our present welfare benefits have not had the test of time. I know that we are trying to forestall the evils of a depression by reducing the consequences of unemployment, but surely there will come a period of lesser production with lower employment and that will be the time when we will know whether Social Security is successful. Roscoe Pounds, ex-dean of Harvard Law School, has said, quote: "Relief from the burden of poverty, relief from fear are laudable humanitarian desires. But much at least of the laudable, humanitarian program if not beyond practical attainment, is certainly beyond practical attainment through law."

QUESTION: "How is welfare administered in Newton, Mr. Keating?"

The disbursement of General Relief, O.A.A. and A.D.C. requires a Board of Public Welfare consisting of five members appointed by the Mayor, one of whom is the Welfare Agent, Mr. James Reynolds, who is the Executive head of the Department. Under him is the staff consisting of Supervisors, Social Workers, Clerks and Stenographers. Theirs is the duty to investigate and keep records of the many requests for aid.

They represent the City in the administration of the laws relating to welfare. They are never "hard boiled" but view each case objectively. By training, experience and special qualifications for this type of work, they have become familiar with the problems of the recipients. They know their heartaches; they realize their emotions, the weaknesses of some of them; they help the unemployed who are not able to get work, some who do not want to work, the unemployables who may often be rehabilitated. They see joy and sadness, bewilderment and resignation, hopelessness and despair.

It takes a special kind of person to qualify for this kind of work. I can assure you that the staff of the Welfare Department do so qualify and are carrying on their work fully appreciating the obligation to the citizens of Newton who provide the financial means which makes it possible to take care of the needs of the recipients.

QUESTION: "Does the Department handle all welfare in the City?"

Not At All. The City also has a Department to administer Soldiers' Relief, but a great deal is taken care of by private agencies. I want to pay my respects to these agencies. They are too numerous to name but what they do for the needy can only be appreciated by those with an intimate knowledge of welfare. They represent the traditional independent social program which typifies the generosity of America and the sense of obligation to our fellow man. If we do not want the Welfare State or Socialism, they deserve our support. Public welfare operates under requirements defined by law. The private agencies are not so restricted and are, therefore, able to perform services not possible under Public Welfare. They are very cooperative and the Department works in complete harmony with them to the resulting advantage to the people of Newton.

In closing I want to say that I have referred perhaps too vaguely to several methods that are desirable in effect and which are all means to the same end - namely, a more even distribution of the nation's income.

Let me leave a thought with you, not mine, but by G. H. Grattan in Harper's Magazine in December, "Those that have an excessive amount of insurance are sometimes referred to as 'Insurance poor'".

"Perhaps a nation bowing unthinkingly to a very admirable humanitarian appeal can become Social Security Poor. The uncomfortable fact today is that nobody can be sure that we are not moving rapidly to that unhappy state."



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PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

April 3, 1950

Hello, Bill: -

This afternoon we've reached our 32nd Broadcast in this Series of Newton City Hall Informational Programs, created with the idea of acquainting our citizens with the functions of the Newton City Government.

It is our pleasure to present today a gentleman who has been a member of a special Board longer than anyone else in the history of the Government of Newton, Mr. William J. Doherty, Chairman of the Newton Registrars of Voters.

Although born in Watertown, Massachusetts, Mr. Doherty has lived in Newton 53 years. From 1905 to 1910 he was a member of the Newton Board of Aldermen, and served as Vice President of the Aldermanic Board in 1910. In 1917 Mr. Doherty first became a member of the Board of Registrars of Voters, and has served continuously on that Board ever since, having acted as Chairman since January 15, 1947, succeeding Harold F. Young in that position.

Being as civic minded as he is, it is only natural that Mr. Doherty served as a member of Mayor Week's Relief Committee, which was a predecessor of the present Community Chest, during the depression. He was an incorporator and member of the first Board of Directors of the Newton Community Chest.

During World War I Mr. Doherty was District Chairman of all Drives for Bond Sales and such. World War II found him as a member of Draft Board #112 for $3\frac{1}{2}$ years.

It is very evident what an outstanding contribution Mr. Doherty has made to the life of the Newton City Government. It is my happy privilege, Bill, to present to you, Mr. William J. Doherty, Chairman of the Newton Board of Registrars of Voters, who has a most worthwhile and interesting message for the citizens of Newton.

Next week, Bill, at the same time, we will present to our radio audience, Chief Philip Purcell of the Newton Police Department, who was one of the first speakers in this Series, but who serves the City in a dual capacity, and next week will tell us about the Newton Municipal Credit Union of which he is President.

RADIO BROADCAST - APRIL 3, 1950
BOARD OF REGISTRARS OF VOTERS
WILLIAM J. DOHERTY, CHAIRMAN

MR. DOHERTY: How do you do Bill.

BILL SHERMAN: I understand you have been a member of the Newton Board of Registrars for over 30 years. Is that right, Mr. Doherty?

MR. DOHERTY: Yes, Bill, on April First just passed I completed 33 years of service on this Board, having first been appointed March 3, 1917 by former Mayor Edwin O. Childs, and have since been reappointed 11 times by four different Mayors.

BILL SHERMAN: You certainly have a record to be proud of, Mr. Doherty. Well, will you tell us something about the Board of Registrars of Voters? How many members does it have, who are they and what are their duties?

MR. DOHERTY: According to provisions of the law, membership on this Board must consist of four members, equally divided, according to enrollment in the dominant political parties, so that the Board now and for many years past has consisted of two Republicans and two Democrats.

Appointments to this Board are made by the Mayor and are subject to confirmation by the Board of Aldermen, and are for terms of three years. One member of the Board must be the City Clerk. The duties of the Board are somewhat diversified in that they have charge of registration of new voters, the selection of names for the jury list and also supervision of the annual listing by the Police Department of all male and female residents of Newton who are 20 years old or over. The annual listing was formerly handled by the Board of Assessors.

We also have charge of recounting of votes in disputed elections - the actual counting of these ballots and decisions on disputed ballots must be made personally by members of the Board.

In a City-wide recount this is a very tedious and exacting job, especially when you consider that during the Count one or more representatives of Contending Candidates stand over the shoulders of the Registrars and frequently interrupt the Count for the purpose of inspecting certain ballots and often entering into an argument as to which Candidate is entitled to have a particular ballot counted in his favor or whether the ballot should be counted as a blank.

In all such cases each member personally inspects the disputed ballot, in each case resorting to all of the methods commonly used to correctly determine the intention of the voter and then renders his decision. A vote is then taken by the four members of the Board, and when the vote is not unanimous, the majority vote governs.

In cases where candidates representative is not in agreement with the Board's decision he has the privilege of entering a protest. In such cases the Board makes a record of such protest to be available in case further action is subsequently taken by the Contending Candidate through an appeal to the Board or by court action.

As previously stated, the recounting job is very tedious, but on the other hand, it gives the counter an excellent opportunity to study human nature by observing the characteristics of the voter.

Most ballots are executed in a most intelligent manner, yet it is surprising how many voters either through carelessness or ignorance fail to mark their ballots properly.

BILL SHERMAN: What advice would you give voters in making out their ballots, Mr. Doherty?

MR. DOHERTY: The results in some elections could easily be changed if all voters would mark their choices on the ballot from top to bottom. Take for example a ballot showing the names of twenty or more candidates seeking election. It is not uncommon to find ballots where the voter has placed a cross against the names of only three or four candidates and in all too many cases only against the name of one candidate. This, of course, results in many blanks, and as previously stated, could, if properly marked, affect the election results in some cases.

BILL SHERMAN: I understand, Mr. Doherty, that your Board also makes up Jury Lists.

MR. DOHERTY: The selection of names for jury duty is made by the Board of Registrars, subject to a later check by the Police Department as a prevention against choice of people with serious court records or for other good reasons which the Police Department may have.

The names selected are taken from the lists compiled by the Police Department each year in their Canvas of residents of this City on January First.

There are now 26 voting precincts in Newton. Four more precincts are to be added in 1950.

Police listings are printed according to precinct and each Registrar is assigned a certain number of precinct lists from which he selects names for jury duty.

Persons of advanced age, those with professional occupations and Federal, State and City officials are usually exempt from service.

The names selected by the Board and approved by the Police Department are sent to our City Clerk who then notifies each person selected by sending him a printed form containing a list of questions which must be answered by selectee, and form then signed and returned to the City Clerk.

Any selectee who feels that he has good reasons for not being drawn for jury duty may appear before the Board and state his reasons. If the Board is satisfied with the reasons given, they may excuse him from service.

Those whose protests do not satisfy the Board together with those who made no protest are added to the jury list.

The chances of being drawn for jury duty are about one in forty. After serving as a juror the citizen may not be drawn again for at least three years.

The jury list when approved and printed is cut into sections, each containing name and address of each person approved for jury duty. These names are placed in a revolving box and when the court makes requisition for names for jury duty, a member of the Board of Aldermen at a regularly called meeting of that Board is selected to draw from above described box as many printed names as the requisition calls for. Under this system there is absolutely no opportunity for favoritism.

BILL SHERMAN: Now to come down to the actual Registration of Voters. How is that done?

MR. DOHERTY: The registration of new voters is a very serious duty. In granting any of our citizens the privilege of voting in elections held in our City the Registrars at all times must exercise extreme care and caution as well as good judgment in the performance of their duties.

According to law any qualified citizen may become a voter. To be qualified the applicant must be a citizen of the United States either by birth or by naturalization, and 21 years old or over, he or she must be able to read and write. A person who has been deprived of citizenship rights by court order or for any other lawful reason cannot become

a voter.

The reading test requires the applicant to read five lines of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts printed on a card selected by applicant from a revolving box located on the Registrars desk. The applicant is sworn to answer all questions truthfully. Questions consist of applicant's age, where born, whether married or single, husband's or wife's name if married, also date of marriage, occupation and where employed.

If foreign born, the applicant must produce naturalization papers, the particulars of which are noted on the permanent record and is then stamped and dated with the official stamp of the Board of Registrars.

BILL SHERMAN: What if a person cannot produce his citizenship paper?

MR. DOHERTY: If the applicant cannot produce his citizenship paper and claims to have been previously registered elsewhere, he must produce a certificate from the Board of Registrars or Election Commission of the town or city where he previously registered to prove his claim, or he must produce a certified copy of his citizenship paper from the court where he was naturalized. Failure to produce either of these documents deprives applicant of the privilege of registering.

Proof of ability to write is shown when applicant signs the permanent registration record after giving satisfactory answers to all questions asked by the Registrars.

After once registering it is not necessary to reregister while registrant remains a resident of the city and at the same address given at time of registration.

In case the registrant moves from the address given to another address within the city that information should be given to the police officer who calls to make the listing in January - your name will then be transferred to the voting list for your new address.

In some cases where our clerk is in doubt about listings, he mails a card to such persons asking for certain information. This card should be filled out and returned promptly, otherwise your name may be removed from the voting list, necessitating reregistering.

BILL SHERMAN: Where should a would be voter go to register, Mr. Doherty?

MR. DOHERTY: Registration of voters is conducted at the City Clerk's office for the greater part of the year during regular office hours. During periods preceding elections the

Board holds special sessions in the evening for registration in all of the various villages in our City in addition to special evening sessions at City Hall during these periods.

The closing hour and date for registration is prescribed by law and no registrations are permitted from that time until after the election is held.

INTERESTING STATISTICS

1919 Number of male voters 7817
Number of Female Voters 632 #Permitted to vote only for School Committee

With the passage of equal suffrage law women were first permitted to vote on same basis as men in the election November 2, 1920.

The registration for the November 2, 1920 election was as follows:

Men 9776
Women 8298

1949 January First Men 19215
Women 22209 Total Registration 41,424

1949 November First Men 19790
Women 22746 Total Registration 42,536

1949 Total Registration 42,536

1919 Total Registration 8,449
34,087

gain in 30 years.

This enormous increase in voters was due to granting voting privilege to women, plus the large increase in our population.

Since September 22, 1922 foreign born women have to take out their own citizenship papers. Previous to that date they automatically assumed the citizenship of their husbands.

The Board of Registrars are naturally proud of their performance during this period, but feel that much of their success was due to our very efficient and affable City Clerk, Frank M. Grant, and his able office assistants.

We also wish to acknowledge our appreciation of the courtesy and full cooperation that has always been accorded to us by the present Mayor and members of the Board of Aldermen as well as by their predecessors in office.

B R O O K L Y N

STATION C C R B

April 10, 1950

NEWTON MUNICIPAL CREDIT UNION

))) (((

INTRODUCTION: Mr. Harold T. Pilsbury

SPEAKING FOR CREDIT UNION: Philip Purcell, President

BILL SHERMAN: What is a credit union?

PHILIP PURCELL: A credit union is a mutual association composed of persons already united by some common bond, who have organized under state or federal law for the purpose of: 1) encouraging thrift by providing a safe and convenient depository for savings at a fair rate of interest; 2) establishing and strengthening credit among its members by loaning them money for any provident or productive purposes at reasonable rates of interest.

BILL SHERMAN: What do you mean when you say "composed of persons already united by some common bond?"

PHILIP PURCELL: The usual and most common bond is employment; i.e., all the employees of a certain concern; however, there are many parish credit unions; also, community or neighborhood credit unions. The bond between neighbors or members of the same community is not nearly as strong as that between those who earn their living together, and this accounts for the fact that occupational credit unions are in the majority.



BILL SHERMAN: Is the credit union movement new?

PHILIP PURCELL: No, Bill, it is not. They originated about the year 1848, over 100 years ago, in Europe. The theory of cooperative credit had been talked about for some years up until that time. In Germany, they were known as "Raiffeisen" societies, named after one of the pioneers of the movement.

The first credit union in America was organized at Levis, near Quebec, by Alphonse DesJardins, a Canadian journalist. He had studied conditions and found that many poor people had been paying exorbitant rates of interest on loans. As a result, he established these "peoples' banks," as they were called.

In 1909 DesJardins helped set up a credit union at Manchester, N. H. About this same time, DesJardins came to Boston and assisted the Bank Commissioner of Massachusetts, Pierre Jay, in drafting a bill whereby our legislature authorized them in this state.

In 1912, President William Howard Taft wrote a letter to the governors of all the states in which he said, "A very good law has been enacted by the State of Massachusetts, allowing the incorporation of credit unions, which should furnish an example to all other states."

The Federal Government, most of the states, the District of Columbia, and nine provinces of Canada, followed Massachusetts' example in passing such laws.

Edward A. Flene, a prominent Boston merchant, played an important part in the development of the credit union movement.

BILL SHERMAN: Who may join a credit union?

PHILIP PURCELL: The persons who may join a credit union is clearly in-

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dicated in each charter; i.e., membership in the Newton Municipal Credit Union is open to any permanent employee of the City of Newton, other than employees of the School Department, who have their own credit union.

BILL SHEPHERD: How may credit union shares be purchased?

PHILIP PURCELL: Shares in credit unions are usually fixed at \$1.00 per share. At this small amount, shares earn dividends more quickly than if the price were higher.

They are purchased by the periodic savings of the member, entries of which are made in his credit union pass book.

BILL SHEPHERD: How many shares may a member own?

PHILIP PURCELL: The maximum number of shares a member may accumulate is fixed by the members at their Annual Meeting. In our credit union, 800 shares is the maximum.

BILL SHEPHERD: May they withdraw their shares?

PHILIP PURCELL: Yes, they may withdraw their shares at any time.

BILL SHEPHERD: Who runs the credit union?

PHILIP PURCELL: The control and management of the credit union rests entirely in the hands of the members. The Board of Directors, elected by the members, manages the organization. The President, Secretary, Treasurer, and other officers, are elected by the Directors from among their own members.

Incidentally, the Treasurer, the man who handles the money is

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bonded with a substantial fidelity bond in an amount determined by the
Bank Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Each member, regardless of his share holdings, is entitled to
one vote. Thus, as you can see, it is an example of democratic or-
ganization. No person can control the organization by buying up shares.

BILL SHERMAN: Is there any central organization of credit unions?

PHILIP PURCELL: Yes. In 1921, a Credit Union National Extension
Bureau was established in Boston. Edward A. Filens was instrumental
in the establishment of this organization, which was set up to promote
credit unions on a national scale in the United States.

In 1935, the Credit Union National Association was organized,
which is the parent organization of each of the C U N A state leagues,
with headquarters at Madison, Wisconsin.

The National Association not only watches legislation concern-
ing the movement, but furnishes supplies at cost; also, loan insurance
at a very low premium.

BILL SHERMAN: What is loan insurance?

PHILIP PURCELL: Loan insurance amounts to this: if a member should
die owing a balance on a loan, the insurance which we carry pays the
balance of the loan, leaving the person's estate free of indebtedness
to the credit union.

BILL SHERMAN: For what purpose are loans usually made?

PHILIP PURCELL: Loans are usually made for medical expenses, to con-
solidate a series of small bills and thus get out of debt, repairs to

houses, purchases and repairs of motor vehicles, and education.

BILL SHARMAN: What guide does the credit committee follow in granting loans?

PHILIP PURCELL: The will and ability to pay. Obviously, it would be unfair to grant a loan which would be a hardship on the borrower in re-paying.

BILL SHARMAN: Why does a credit union operate at a minimum cost?

PHILIP PURCELL: It operates at a minimum cost because the employees are associated together in their employment, or otherwise, and credit status can be more readily ascertained.

BILL SHARMAN: How are the earnings distributed?

PHILIP PURCELL: Net earnings from loan operations, interest, and other sources, less operating expenses and reserves, are returned to the members in the form of dividends on their share holdings.

BILL SHARMAN: Is there any supervision over credit unions?

PHILIP PURCELL: Yes. All state chartered credit unions are under the direct supervision of the Commissioner of Banks of the Commonwealth, and subject to many laws governing credit union operation.

Each credit union is examined every calendar year by a qualified bank examiner. In addition, various statements and reports are forwarded to the Banking Department periodically.

BILL SHARMAN: Tell us some more about the Newton Municipal Credit Union.



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PHILIP PURCELL: In order to a long time feeling that a credit union was needed, the Newton Municipal Credit Union was chartered on May 19, 1941, and began doing business May 20, 1941. The original Board of Directors were representatives from each department, including the school department, as well as those employed in the City Hall.

At the initial meeting, Miss Agnes C. Gertland, Managing Director of the Massachusetts C U N A Association, Inc., was present to counsel and advise.

Miss Gertland is one of the early credit union executives in Massachusetts, having been in the movement since the days of Edward A. Fiske.

All the members of our association are indebted to her for her excellent advice and guidance.

BILL SHERRMAN: How many members are in your credit union at the present time?

PHILIP PURCELL: We have grown to 435 members.

BILL SHERRMAN: Are there many credit unions in existence today?

PHILIP PURCELL: It is estimated that in the United States and Canada there are about 13,000.

BILL SHERRMAN: Are there many in Massachusetts?

PHILIP PURCELL: About 540 with 325,000 members.

BILL SHERRMAN: How long have you been in the credit union?

PHILIP PURCELL: Bill, I have been in the credit union since it started.

BILL SHIMAN: How long have you been president?

PHILIP PURCELL: Since it started.

BILL SHIMAN: Apparently the credit union is rendering a definite service to its members in the employ of the City.

PHILIP PURCELL: Yes, Bill, it is. In fact, the keynote of the credit union movement is "Not for Profit, Not for Charity, but for Service."

PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

April 17, 1950

Hello, again, Bill: -

This Broadcast is the 34th in this Series of Informational Programs designed to acquaint the citizenry with operations within the Newton City Government.

This afternoon we are presenting Alderman Julian D. Anthony, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Alderman Anthony was first elected a member of the Board in 1946. During the intervening years, our speaker has served as Chairman of the Franchises and Licenses Committee, a member of the Public Buildings and Claims & Rules Committees; also the Committee on the Mayor's Address. Currently, Alderman Anthony is a member of the Education Committee and Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Perusing "Who's Who in Insurance" we learn that Alderman Anthony was born in Brockton, Mass. He was educated at Wesleyan University and Northeastern University School of Law and received his B.S. & L.L.B. Degrees respectively.

He came to Newton in April, 1935, and is the father of four children, all of whom are in the Newton Public Schools.

In the business world our speaker is President and Director of the Columbian National Life Insurance Company with whom he has been identified, in various capacities, since 1931. He is a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association, Director of the International Hydro Electric System, Director and member of the Trust Committee, New England Trust Company.

His civic interests include participation as Chairman for the 1949 Greater Boston Heart Campaign, Chairman of the Advisory Committee Massachusetts Heart Association, 1950; Member-at-Large Assembly, American Heart Association, 1950. Nationally, he is active on Committees of the life insurance associations. At present he is Deacon and formerly served as Chairman of the Prudential Committee, First Church in Newton. Congregational.

Today, Alderman Anthony, in person, has a most interesting and informative message. He will discuss the City's financial operations and acquaint us with Newton's financial picture.

Bill, it is my happy privilege to present to you - - - Hon. Julian D. Anthony, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour we will present Honorable Kenneth E. Prior, Chairman of the Public Works Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.



ALDERMAN JULIAN D. ANTHONY, CHAIRMAN OF FINANCE COMMITTEE
NEWTON BOARD OF ALDERMEN

April 17, 1950

QUESTION: Will you tell us a little about what the Finance Committee is and what it does?

ANSWER: The Finance Committee is one of the Standing Committees of the Board of Aldermen. Like most of the other Committees it is composed of seven Aldermen and by custom there is one from each ward. It is one of the most important of the Committees because all expenses incurred by the City have to go through this Committee and be approved by it at some time or another. In other words, it is the Committee that examines the financial operation of the City and then makes its recommendations for action by the full Board. Not only do such things as purchase of equipment, salaries, etc., pass through this Committee, but also such additional matters as the sales of land, the settlement of claims, pensions and even ordinances which involve the incurring or control of expense. Most of these matters pass through other Committees as well for study of other aspects, but the Finance Committee has the overall view of the City's financial operations, and every individual expense must fit into the whole financial picture. Thus the Finance Committee acts on it and reports it to the full Board for action. Never can the Finance Committee act all by itself without reporting to the full Board.

The most important single thing which the Finance Committee does is the reporting and the recommending of the Annual Budget. This is the job which it has only recently finished doing and on which some eighty hours of Committee consideration has been given, as well as other outside time by individual members of the Committee. The Budget controls the expense of every Department and every single penny of expenditure must be included in it or else in subsequent appropriations. Obviously, things arise after the Budget is voted which were not anticipated and these may be approved as they come along. However, probably 98% of the total City cost is usually covered by the Annual Budget.

QUESTION: No one would expect a Committee of Aldermen to collect all the information necessary to make up this Budget. Where does it come from?

ANSWER: Fortunately, a lot of work has been done on the Budget before we get it, but this does not mean that we can pass it over lightly. Each City Department Head submits to the Mayor preliminary Budget requests by November 1. The Mayor then goes over these figures, talks them over with the individual Department Heads and gets final Budget requests by January 1. The Mayor then has forty-five days, or until February 15, to go over them and submit the Budget to the Board of Aldermen. By that process, the Mayor approves the requests as they are made or in changed amounts. Quite frequently the Mayor does not approve all the requests, as for instance, this year the Mayor cut about a half a million dollars off the total requested by the Department Heads. Occasionally, the Mayor may add an item or change it upward if he believes it is inadequate for any reason. This is very much the exception because, of course, human nature being what it is, few people ask for less than they think is necessary. The Finance Committee on the other hand can only approve or reduce the requested appropriation. Chapter 44, Section 22 of the General Laws of Massachusetts says: "The City Council may reduce or reject any item, but without the approval of the Mayor---shall not increase any item in or the total of a Budget, nor add any item thereto."

QUESTION: That seems a little unfair to the Aldermen. Can't they do anything if they think some thing should be done that incurs expense?

ANSWER: Not without the cooperation and assent of the Mayor. In practice, the Finance Committee or the Board can, and frequently does recommend to the Mayor that certain things be done. In cases where he is receptive, he can bring in a request for it. This can be

done as a supplement Budget request and passed along with the regular Budget or it can be later in the year.

QUESTION: On the night that you presented the Budget to the Aldermen, I heard you say that labor is a very important item in the Budget. Do you fix the salaries of City employees?

ANSWER: This is really an administrative function and, therefore, the duty of the Mayor and his staff to make salary recommendations and thus to fix salaries. However, as with other expense, these all have to be approved by the Board of Aldermen. In the process of approval, the Finance Committee may or may not approve in entirety the recommendations of the Mayor. Section 20 of the Revised Ordinances states as follows: "There shall be appended to the Annual Appropriation Order as made by the Committee on Finance and as passed by the Board of Aldermen a list specifying under one heading all salaries payable from the tax levy or otherwise---". But as you indicated, salaries are an extremely important item in the operation of the City. Few people **realize** how important. For instance, in the Fire Department, 90% of the total cost is salary. In the Street Department, item after item consists mainly of salary. These are big items, too. I would estimate that 90% of the Street Department Budget is salaries. Take for instance, the single item that appears in the Street Department Budget for the collection of ashes and papers. \$230,510.00 was appropriated for that activity: \$225,000 of this was for labor. In the School Department again the same story holds. Teachers' salaries amount to 75% of the School Department Budget and the total of the salaries of the teachers, the superintendents and directors, the janitors and the maintenance men accounts for 87% of the total cost of schools. Incidentally, the School Department Budget was up moderately this year and almost the entire increase in expense was accounted for by the increase in salaries. I think it is important that Newton citizens realize these facts for the increasing cost of municipal operations in the recent four or five years is due almost entirely to the fact that municipal salaries, like all others, must be adjusted to the existing level generally. Furthermore, it is important that labor saving devices shall be used whenever possible.

QUESTION: The Finance Committee does have a big job. It calls for a lot of experience.

ANSWER: Yes, it does call for a lot of experience, not only in the City, but outside. It has been customary to put on the Finance Committee the senior Aldermen from each ward. That is, senior in number of years experience on the Board. The result, of course, is that these men have had more contact with all the City Departments than a newer man would have, and they have come up through all the various Committees through which matters funnel into the Finance Committee. As a result, they can act on Finance Committee decisions much more intelligently and quickly. I think you would like to know that the present Finance Committee membership, as in previous years, is essentially a Committee of Businessmen who certainly stand for business efficiency in the operation of the City. One member is in the leather business, another is in the newspaper business, a third is Treasurer of a publishing company, still another is an executive of a checking locker concern, two are practising lawyers, while a total of four out of the seven on the Committee are members of the Bar. With this broad experience together with my own in insurance and financial fields, the Committee collectively brings to the consideration of any problems before it a wide background of information and ideas which should be of great value to the City. It is an excellent Committee to work with, and I am more than grateful for the opportunity of working with them. They give faithful, unbiased service to City affairs and take a great interest in the work of the Committee, sometimes at great personal sacrifice, and always without any hope of reward, for Finance Committee members, like all Aldermen, receive no compensation.

QUESTION: Now that the Budget is out of the way, you ought to be able to tell us what the tax rate will be.

ANSWER: It isn't quite as easy as that. The tax rate is the final adjustment of many figures. It is true that the most important one is the operating Budget but, of course, an extremely important matter is the amount of income which will come to the City from other sources than tax revenue. The amount to be raised by taxes is the difference between these two figures. A very important income figure is the return to the City from the State corporation tax and the reimbursement from Federal and State Governments of items of welfare and relief. However, it is possible at this time to say that there is every indication that the tax rate can be held at the same figure as last year. I can assure you that the Finance Committee will be very disappointed if this is not the case.

QUESTION: That's very encouraging. Does the tax rate reflect everything that the City is spending?

ANSWER: Emphatically no! While holding the tax rate in line is very pleasant to be able to report, it is only a part of the picture. Unfortunately, the City of Newton is emulating its big Uncle Sam and is spending more than it takes in in income and is borrowing the balance. Only three weeks ago the City sold \$2,600,000 worth of bonds. These were for necessary improvements to roads, extensions to sewers, new schools and other public purposes. They will provide facilities very much needed and strongly desired by our citizens and taxpayers. BUT--they are expensive! If we had paid for all of these things out of income as we go along--and Newton was once on the pay-as-you-go policy--this \$2,600,000 reflected in the tax rate would have meant approximately \$13 per thousand higher tax rate. It is perfectly sound to pay for these improvements over the years in which we use them, but we should not kid ourselves about the whole matter.

There is an idea very prevalent that if a city needs something, all it has to do is borrow the money to pay for it, and that by some magic we get the improvement in that way without it costing anything. This is a very mistaken notion. These improvements have to be paid for sometime, we do it by paying off the bonds and they will add to the burden of taxation in future years.

Taking our 1950 Budget as some indication of this burden, the amount included in it for interest and serial retirement of bonds is \$846,000. This does not include the interest or principal payments on water debt which is self-supporting from water revenue. Think of it! Not far from a million dollars of tax collections to go to pay the charges on past years' borrowings for capital improvements built in past years. That is a lot of money. Translated into each individual tax bill, this amount of interest and principal payments is the equivalent of about \$4.25 per thousand of assessed valuation and \$4.25 out of the total tax rate. If this does come out to be \$36, the same as last year, it will amount to 12% of the total rate. Next year it will be even higher because of the recent borrowing, and the prospect is for continued increase for some time to come as the end of extraordinary capital improvements to be paid for by borrowing is not in sight.

All Newton citizens should be alive to this new problem which was not important in many years past. The need for things must be balanced against the ultimate cost and the ultimate cost is just as real, in fact, a little bit greater, if we borrow the money, as compared with paying for these things as we go along.

WCRB RADIO BROADCAST

Kenneth E. Prior
-Chairman-
Public Works Committee
Board of Adlermen

April 24, 1950

I am very happy to have the opportunity of explaining the work of the Committee on Public Works to your radio audience. Matters referred to the Public Works Committee consist of acceptance, laying out, relocation, alteration or discontinuance of public ways, construction, repair and maintenance of same, and construction, repair and maintenance of public grounds, drains, sewers and water works. The Administrative Departments which report directly to the Public Works Committee, and from whom studies and information are constantly requested by the Committee, are the Public Works Department, the Engineering Department, the Street Department and the Water Department.

Since the War, this Committee has been required to study and report on a tremendous volume of petitions. From 1946 through 1949 this Committee reported on 120 street petitions, 213 sewer petitions, 13 widening petitions and 119 water petitions, as well as petitions for the taking of land for municipal purposes - such as schools, school yards and off-street parking - and petitions for abatement and division of assessments.

At the present time, the Committee is studying the program for surface treatment and reconstruction for 1950, and have on their list 69 petitions for street acceptance and widening, and it is hoped that they can be acted upon during this year. Already, in 1950, the Committee has heard about 35 petitions for street acceptance and about 35 petitions for the installation of sewer. So far, the Public Works Department has been able to prepare studies and estimates for, and actual installation of, practically all of the sewer and water petitions approved by the Board. Street petitions are the only ones where sufficient funds and forces in the Administrative Departments have not been available for acting upon the tremendous influx of petitions received since the War.

QUESTION: How do you go about submitting a petition?

To explain the methods by which the general public presents problems for study by the Committee, and the steps required after the petition has been presented before final approval of the projects, it seems advisable to consider a particular problem that might come before the Board.

Citizens living on a private street within the confines of the City of Newton decide among themselves that they wish their street to become a public street and are willing to contribute to its construction cost. They contact a member of the Board of Aldermen, the City Clerk, the Engineering Department, or the Public Works Department and request a petition form. One of the abutters on the street circulates the petition among the entire group of abutters on the street, asking that they sign the petition requesting that the street be accepted. As soon as the petition has the signatures of all the abutters who wish to sign it - it is then forwarded to the City Clerk. The President of the Board, at the next Board of Alderman Meeting, refers it to the Committee on Public Works, and the Committee then assigns a public hearing. Upon this request the Engineering Department prepares an order of hearing, which requires that they determine the owners, as of record, of all of the abutting property on the street. This order of hearing is forwarded to the City Clerk, who officially notifies the abutters of the time and date that the public hearing will be held concerning their petition. The petition is then heard before the full Board, at which time those interested appear and voice either their approval or objection to the acceptance of the street. At the public hearing, sketches from the Engineering Department are available to show the amount each property owner will be assessed for the improvement - or any widening that may be required - when and if the street is finally accepted.

QUESTION: What happens after all this is done?

After this public hearing the Public Works Committee then notifies the Public Works Department as to whether further studies shall be made and appropriations recommended - or the petition is granted leave to withdraw. It

is customary, however, where the petitions are in order, and meet with the rules established by the Board of Aldermen, that leave to withdraw is not granted until such time as the costs are determined.

The Engineering Department then conducts surveys, and makes studies and estimates of the cost of building the proposed street, and the amount of funds that would have to be appropriated by the Board of Aldermen to do the work. No appropriation can be made by the Board except on the recommendation of the Mayor. As soon as studies and estimates are made by the Engineering Department, formal recommendations and requests are forwarded to the Mayor, stating the funds necessary, the amount of the assessments, and the source of the funds. The Mayor may approve or disapprove these recommendations. If he approves, the recommendations are forwarded to the City Clerk to appear on the docket for the next meeting of the Board of Aldermen. Once approved by the Mayor, and forwarded to the City Clerk, it is then discussed with the Committee on Public Works in detail, and if everything is in order, and meets with their approval, it is then forwarded to the Committee on Finance for their consideration. After consideration by these two committees, it is acted upon by the full Board and may either be approved or disapproved by them at this time.

If the petition is approved, the funds are appropriated and it then becomes the job of the Street Department to construct the project in accordance with the studies of the Engineering Department. As has been stated above, the procedure is the same regardless of what type of petition is forwarded to the Public Works Committee where appropriations are required.

QUESTION: What about abatements?

In the case of abatement of assessments, and division of assessments, where public hearing is required, these are set up in a similar manner as for a public hearing on a street acceptance, and then immediately acted upon by the Board without further action required by the Administrative Departments, and may either be approved or disapproved by the Board.

QUESTION: How do you levy assessments?

As has been mentioned in the method of procedure, assessments against properties for the installation of sewers, water and street construction are determine previous to the date of the public hearing, in order that anyone wishing the information as to what the cost will be to them may be informed of this at the public hearing.

Sewer assessments are levied according to ordinance, and installations are paid for in half by the abutter. The cost of installing a sewer over the past years has been determined, and from that the average cost per foot has been computed. 50% of this cost, to be paid by the abutter, is then determined on a cost per front foot and a cost per square foot in area. The front foot, of course, is the actual measured frontage along the street in front of which the sewer is installed. The area is that area which is included between the street line and a depth of 125 feet from the street line, provided that this total area is above a grade line computed at a 2% rate starting from the invert of the sewer and running back into the property. The rate established for this assessment is 30¢ a front foot for frontage assessment and 3¢ a square foot for area assessment. Abutters who feel that they have a grievance concerning assessments levied by the Board of Aldermen have the right to petition the Board for abatement.

Corner lots pay assessments on both streets equal to the above on the first street on which the sewer is installed, and frontage assessment plus the remaining area not already assessed on the second street installation.

Under the ordinances, the Board of Aldermen have definite powers which regulate the construction of buildings at elevations sufficiently high so that the building may be served with sewer and surface drain installations. The Public Works Committee of the Board have established a rule which states that no building permit shall be issued by the Building Department until the Engineering Department establishes the elevation of the sewer within the confines of the street in front of the proposed dwelling, this elevation to govern the height of the sill and cellar floor of the proposed dwelling.

On street betterment assessments for the acceptance of streets, again, the abutter pays half the cost. The maximum assessment has been established by rule of the Board of Aldermen at \$5 a front foot. If the street cost is less than \$20 a running foot, then the actual assessment to the abutter is 50% of the actual cost. If it exceeds \$20 a running foot the City stands the additional cost, but in no case does the abutter pay in excess of 50% of the actual construction of the street.

These assessments may be paid immediately upon being levied, or may be amortized over a period of 10 years at 4% interest.

In the case of a corner lot, as far as betterment street assessments are concerned the assessment of \$5 a front foot maximum is levied on the lot when the first street is accepted. At the time the second street is accepted the assessment is reduced between 25% and 50% of the frontage on the second street in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Assessors.

It should be understood that the levying of assessments, as far as the installation of sewer is concerned, includes only the installation of the actual sewer main. The connection from the sewer to the house is handled on an entirely different basis in that, by State Law, this has to be paid for in advance of the work. Requests on regular house connections are made to the Street Department, who prepare estimates and forward them to the applicant. Upon payment of this estimated cost, the connection is installed and if the cost is greater than that estimated, the abutter is billed for the additional amount - and if the cost is less than the estimated amount the abutter receives a rebate for the difference.

QUESTION: Does the City make all house connections?

Due to the tremendous amount of construction in the city since the end of the War, it has been necessary for the Board to license contractors for the installation of these house connections. At any time the Sewer Division receives requests for sewer house connections in excess of the amount that they

can readily accomplish, a list of licensed sewer layers is forwarded to the abutter and the method of payment is then up to the abutter and the licensed sewer layer. The City inspects the installation to make sure it conforms with the regulations established for this purpose.

QUESTION: What about Water petitions?

Installation of water mains is also accomplished under petition of the abutter or the developer. Upon petition of the developer to the Water Department, the Engineering Department prepares studies and estimates of the cost of the proposed installation. Before such petitions are brought before the Public Works Committee these estimates are prepared and the owners are requested to deposit 15% of the estimated cost with the Water Department. The estimated cost on which the guarantee is computed is on a 6" main regardless of the size actually installed. At the end of a five year period, from which time water was first furnished - or if at an earlier time the total billings for water sold equal the amount of the deposit - there will be returned to the person making the deposit an amount not in excess of the deposit equalling the total billings for water sold from this extension during the period of 5 years.

After the petitioner has deposited his 15% guarantee, the petition is forwarded to the Mayor for recommendation and upon the Mayor's approval, forwarded to the Public Works Committee for their consideration, and from this point forward follows the procedure outlined earlier in this discussion.

BILL SHERMAN: I can see your Committee has varied duties.

Yes, another duty which the Public Works Committee performs is the selection and establishing of the yearly program on street construction and overall surface treatment. The district foremen, from the three districts covering the entire City, submit to the Public Works Department a list of the streets in need of some type of attention. This list is then broken down by Wards and forwarded to the members of the Board of Aldermen. Each Alderman is required to circulate through his Ward and establish a preferential rating for

the order in which he thinks these streets should be handled. It is the duty of the Public Works Committee, in conjunction with the Director of Public Works, to analyze these lists and on a proration basis establish the program to be considered during that year. The lists of streets carrying the highest ratings are then viewed by the Public Works Committee as a whole, and from this tour the actual streets are selected to appear on the Public Works Program. This list is then submitted to the Director of Public Works, who then specifies the type of work to be done on each street.

From funds available, both in the budget account and in bond authorizations, estimates are prepared for each street in accordance with the type of treatment recommended. In most cases, during the past few years, the lists established were considerably larger than moneys and time available for actual accomplishment and, therefore, only those streets with the highest rating actually appeared on the final street program, which governs the work for the ensuing year.

During 1950 there will be available for street maintenance \$100,000 and for street reconstruction from bonded funds \$200,000.

The Committee is now in the process of establishing the program for 1950, the lists having been forwarded to the entire Board, and as soon as these have been returned to the Director of Public Works they will be turned over to the Public Works Committee and the 1950 program established.

QUESTION: How often does your Committee meet?

The rule of the Board of Aldermen is that they shall meet upon the first and third Monday evenings of each month at 7:45 o'clock unless otherwise ordered. Originally, it was the procedure of the Board to hold all public hearings and committee meetings, and take whatever action was necessary, on these Monday evenings, but in the past few years the volume of work required to be accomplished by the Board necessitated the meetings extending well into the

morning hours, causing considerable hardship not only on the Board members but also on the general public wishing to know what action might be taken on their particular petition. Due to this, a new procedure was established early in 1949 whereby committee meetings were established by rule to be held on the Thursday evening preceding the Monday evening meeting. Dockets containing the proposals under consideration are forwarded to the Board members the Friday preceding this Thursday night meeting in order that the members may have ample time to study all proposals and to obtain from the Administrative Departments, or from the general public, information concerning anything that is to come before them. It also gives them an opportunity to visit the locations concerned in these proposals and thoroughly acquaint themselves with the problems that will be discussed at the committee meetings.

Only through the granting of this time and attention to these projects are the committee members able to discuss and pass on these proposals conscientiously and intelligently.

WSP/mp
4/17/50



Hello, Bill -

This afternoon we will broadcast for the 37th time in this Series (1) the City Hall Informational Program, designed for the purpose of acquainting our citizenry with operations of the New York City Movement.

It is our pleasure today to present Dr. Mary Alice Smith, Assistant Surgeon in the U. S. Public Health Service.

Dr. Smith was born in Buffalo, New York and received her B.S. degree from D'Youville College and her M.D. degree from the Buffalo School of Medicine, New York.

Dr. Smith, before joining the U. S. Public Health Service, was Assistant at the Meyer Memorial Hospital and the Buffalo County Hospital, New York.

Also, our speaker, at one time, was identified with the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, in Boston, in the Medical Out-Patient Department.

Dr. Smith came to Newton in November, 1949 as a staff member of the Medical Department's Heart Demonstration Program. Since her arrival in Newton, heart screening of industrial employees has been successfully conducted.

Today, Dr. Smith, in person, has a most interesting message for our listeners which in particular pertains to the Rheumatic Fever Program - pilot studies which are conducted in Newton under the joint sponsorship of the Boston Health Department, the Massachusetts Department of Health and the U. S. Public Health Service.

It is my happy privilege, Bill, to present to you, Dr. Mary Alice Smith. Dr. Smith, may I present Bill Sherman, Special Events Director of the Community Radio Station WCRB.

Next week at the same hour we will present for our 37th Broadcast the Honorable Ernest G. Angevine, Chairman of the Claims & Rules Committee of the Boston Board of Aldermen.



THE NEWTON SCHOOL
1000 WEST 10TH AVENUE
DENVER, COLORADO 80202
TELEPHONE 333-1234

Bill: As Mr. Pillsbury said, you're with the Health Department's Heart Demonstration Program, paradoxically interested in the problem of rheumatic fever. Is that right, Dr. Smith?

Smith: Yes, that's right, Bill.

Bill: Then would I be right in assuming that you know all about the rheumatic fever questionnaires the Health Department sent home with the school children last week?

Smith: I wouldn't say I know all about them. But I'm quite familiar with them. Have you seen one of the rheumatic fever questionnaires?

Bill: No, I haven't. I read about them in the papers. What was asked? What were you interested in finding out?

Smith: The questionnaire asked whether anyone in the family, parent or child, had ever had rheumatic fever. You see, rheumatic fever is a very serious disease that shortens many lives. Now it is very much a preventable disease. We wanted to spot those Newton families in which there's ever been a case of rheumatic fever. We hope to help these families realize that any future attacks of rheumatic fever can be prevented, so that they can go to their family doctor and get this advice concerning methods of protection.

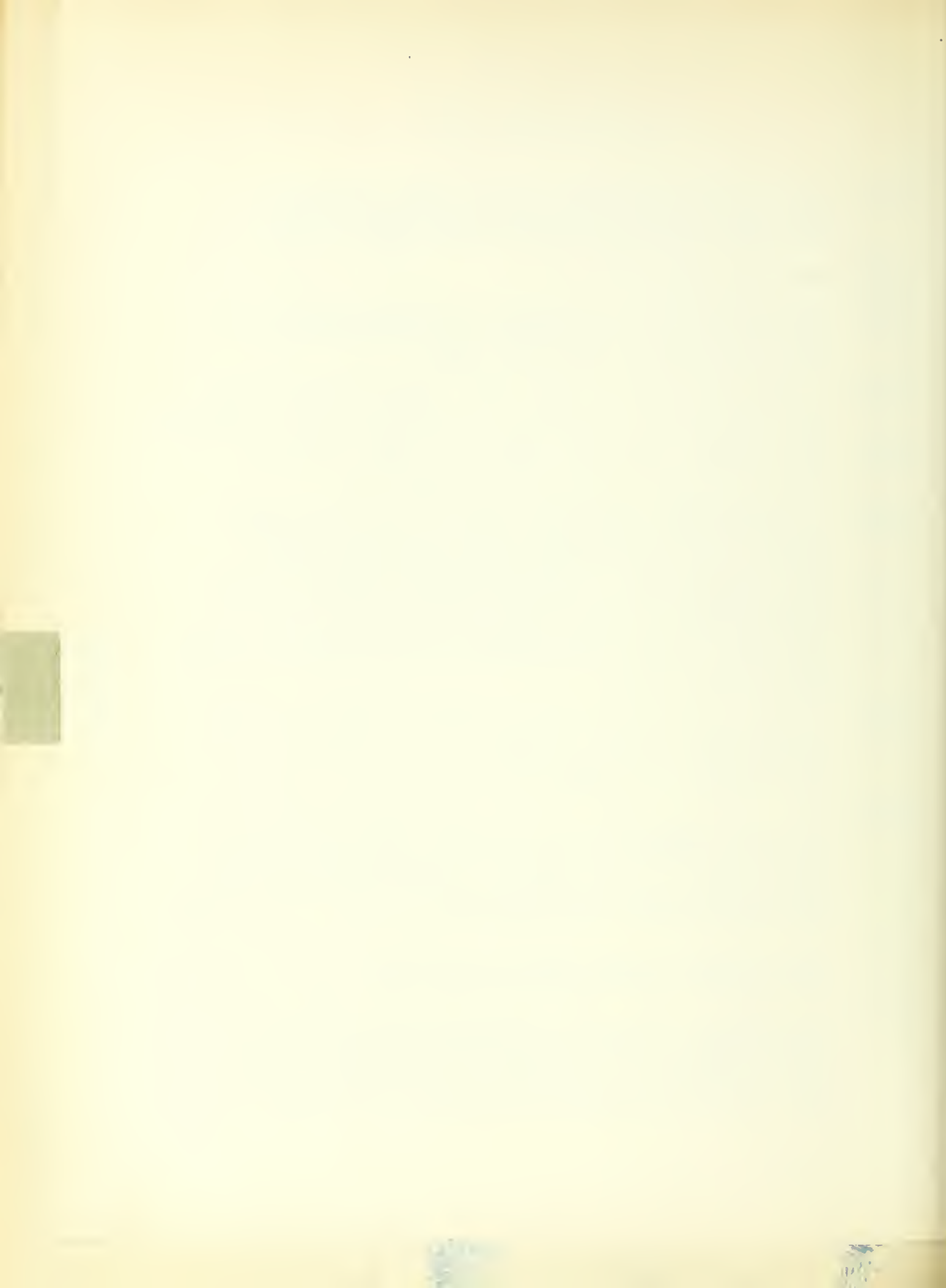
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Bill: I see. That sounds like a very good idea. There's one thing I wonder about, though. You talk in terms of protection against future attacks for the whole family. Does that mean that rheumatic fever tends to run in families?

Smith: Yes, you're quite right. It isn't a communicable disease but it has the tendency to run in families. And another thing, one attack of rheumatic fever does not protect an individual from future attacks. In fact, attacks of rheumatic fever are more likely to occur among individuals who have already had the disease than among those who have never had it.

Bill: Then it's different from chicken pox or measles or some of those other childhood diseases many of us have had.

Smith: Very different, Bill, both in the way it begins, and in the long effects it may have. But let me tell you about Jim, a Newton boy you might know. In some ways his is a typical rheumatic fever story. It began early in April, the year that Jim was seven years old. He had a sore throat, and his mother kept him out of school



Bill: A couple of days later, Jim's mother told him that he had a very serious illness. He had a very high fever and was unable to walk. When the doctor came, he said that the doctor. That's the way Jim's rheumatic fever began. He was out of school for the rest of that year. The first few months he was a very sick boy, and his mother was at his side a good deal of the time.

Bill: Don't many of these children have to go to the hospital?

Smith: Sometimes they do, but Jim's mother would be sure for him at home. She did a good job, but it was hard on her.

Bill: I can well understand how it would be.

Smith: By the time the summer came, the acute stage of his illness had passed, and Jim was feeling better. But in order to prevent overtaxing his heart, Jim had to remain quietly in bed for the greater part of the day. You can imagine how difficult it is to try to explain to a seven-year-old child, the importance of staying in bed, even though he feels all right. He was pretty unhappy hearing the other youngsters in the neighborhood playing outside every day. But the rest paid off, and when school started in the fall, Jim was back with his class as usual. It wasn't quite the same as before, however. He had missed much of the previous year's work and found it difficult to keep pace with the rest of the children. Besides that, he had been cautioned against running too hard and playing too hard. And every afternoon after school he had to take a nap.

Bill: I can imagine he was a very unhappy fellow. That must have felt awfully different from the rest of the kids.

Smith: Yes, and the worst of it was, that despite all the precautions that had been taken to safeguard his health, despite his mother's care the following February, Jim had a recurrence. And this time Jim's heart was really damaged. You see, rheumatic fever affects the connective tissues of the body—in his skin and the joints, for example. But the thing we worry about most is the heart damage. The entire heart, particularly the valve that controls the flow of blood through the heart, can be involved. And that can be the cause of continuous trouble throughout the individual's life. Another thing, usually it is felt that the more attacks of rheumatic fever, the more likely is the heart to be damaged. But to continue Jim's story... Within three years, Jim had a third attack of rheumatic fever, and again his activities were considerably limited. All through high school, because of his heart condition, Jim had to be careful to choose only those sports

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Smith: One criticism that is made is that Jim was fortunate in having his fever diagnosed early. He was fortunate in having been under good medical supervision. And he was absolutely right in checking his activities carefully. Because today Jim is leading a relatively normal life -- within his own limits. He's married, works in an office downtown and has a boy that was five years old last week.

Bill: Well, Dr. Smith, I'd say Jim's story was a really happy ending.

Smith: It does, Bill, and what we know about rheumatic fever today, it ought to remain that way. It's children like Jim's, as well as children who have already had one attack of the disease, who need special protection against rheumatic fever.

Bill: Well, just how can they be protected? Can they be vaccinated against it?

Smith: No, there is no vaccination. It seems that proper doses of penicillin can best protect a child from rheumatic attacks. You see, most authorities on rheumatic fever agree that probably all attacks of rheumatic fever are preceded by an infection -- say a sore throat or an earache -- caused by a certain streptococcal organism. Recent discoveries show that penicillin can prevent this organism from getting any foothold in the body.

Bill: All sore throats certainly don't lead to rheumatic fever, do they?

Smith: Oh, no. Certainly not. Only those caused by a certain type of germ, types of the Beta hemolytic streptococcus A, to give its full medical name, are linked up with rheumatic fever. For children who have had rheumatic fever, besides the apple a day, it's penicillin every day. The idea is, that penicillin will prevent the streptococcal infection, and thereby prevent rheumatic fever.

Bill: Has penicillin been used like this -- to prevent rheumatic fever -- for a long time?

Smith: The basis for the use of penicillin is very well established. Over a period of years it's been used with great success in hospitals in Boston, Cleveland and Chicago, for example. We hope the knowledge of prevention, gained through research, can be applied throughout Newton, as it is needed.

Bill: Just how is this to be done, Dr. Smith? Do we have any kind of definite program?

Smith: The survey to find rheumatic fever families is part of Newton's rheumatic fever prevention program, Bill. But perhaps I should start from the way it began.

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Smith: (cont.) The House Committee on Education and Labor, which has jurisdiction over the National Health Program, is sponsoring a bill on rheumatic fever headed by the Chief of Staff to the President (Mr. E.A. Tamm). This bill was passed just last December and is now being considered for more than penicillin with normal rheumatic fever. Last September at the Newton Porter School for the Deaf (which is a lecture series for doctors on various aspects of heart disease) the Newton Foundation said two authorities speak on rheumatic fever - Dr. J. H. Jones and Dr. Kenneth Marshall. They told not only of the results of experimental studies using penicillin to prevent rheumatic fever, but strongly recommended that similar measures be taken in community basis through the family physician. Chief of the Newton Section showed the film, and allusions were made to obtain penicillin in a low rate to make it available for every family needing it. Penicillin is now available in the Health Department. It can only be obtained on the physician's prescription, and it is available only to individuals who have had rheumatic fever, or to members of their family.

Bill: Suppose you go to a doctor in town. Could you still obtain low cost penicillin through the Health Department?

Smith: Yes, certainly. It's for any Newton family where there's a history of rheumatic fever.

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Bill: Suppose someone is in bed with an attack of rheumatic fever. Would penicillin help him?

Smith: The real benefits of penicillin don't come when the patient already has the disease, Bill. It's to prevent the strep organism from starting up the attack.

Bill: Then this is really a program of prevention.

Smith: Yes, Bill, and in order for it to succeed, it will take the full cooperation of children and parents, with their physicians.



PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

May 8, 1950

Greetings, Bill:

This is our 37th Broadcast in this Series of Newton City Hall Informational Programs, designed to acquaint the Newton citizenry with municipal operations.

It is our happy privilege to present today Alderman-At-Large Ernest G. Angevine, Vice-President of the Newton Board of Aldermen and Chairman of the Claims and Rules Committee.

Our speaker was born in Highland, New York. He was educated at Williams College and Harvard Law School and received his B. A. & L. L. B. Degrees respectively from these institutions.

Mr. Angevine resides, in West Newton, is the father of four children, two of whom are in the Newton Public Schools and one a graduate of Newton High.

The family attends The Second Church in Newton - - - Congregational.

Mr. Angevine was first elected to the Board in 1944 and has served on several Committees including the Franchises and Licenses, Legislation, and special committees on fees and pension plans. He has been Chairman since 1948 of the Claims and Rules Committee. Also, 1 is a member of the Finance Committee.

In the professional world Mr. Angevine is a member of the law firm of Hutchins & Wheeler. Likewise he is a member of the Boston Bar Association. His civic activities are diversified, some of which are, namely: -

Director and Clerk:

The Children's Museum and The Boston Tuberculosis Association

Director: All Newton Music School

Incorporator: West Newton Savings Bank

Past President:

West Newton Men's Club

Former Divisional Chairman of The Newton Community Chest. He was honored last year by the Chest for his many years service, particularly since its inception.

Today, Mr. Angevine, in person, has a most informative and educational message for our listeners. It pertains to the functions of the Claims and Rules Committee.

It is my privilege, Bill, to present to you - - - Honorable Ernest G. Angevine, Chairman of the Claims and Rules Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Next week, Bill, at the same time, we will present to our radio audience Aldermen-At-Large Winfield C. Anderson, Chairman of the Franchises and Licenses Committee.

WCRB RADIO BROADCAST
HONORABLE ERNEST G. ANGEVINE
-CHAIRMAN-
CLAIMS AND RULES COMMITTEE
NEWTON BOARD OF ALDERMEN

May 8, 1950

MR. ANGEVINE: Good afternoon, Bill, I am pleased to have this opportunity to explain to the Newton citizenry a few of the many matters that are referred to the Claims & Rules Committee.

BILL SHERMAN: We're happy to have you with us today, Mr. Angevine. We are aware that your Committee has many legal problems to solve and judicial decisions to render, so to start our interview we would first like to determine what are the functions of the Claims & Rules Committee.

MR. ANGEVINE: The Claims and Rules Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen passes on all claims against the City, all proposed changes in the ordinances and all matters having to do with the zoning laws.

BILL SHERMAN: You stated, Mr. Angevine, that the Claims & Rules Committee passes on all claims against the City. May I ask you what is the City's position relative to damages caused by the carelessness of employees in carrying out municipal functions?

MR. ANGEVINE: That's a very good question, Bill. The City does not insure against liability for damages caused by its employees. One of the underlying legal concepts relating to municipal law is that a city is not liable for injuries caused by the carelessness of its employees in carrying out essential municipal functions. If a fire engine runs into a car, if an ash collection truck backs into your house or if a car driven by an employee in the Building Department skids into you, the City is not liable. The driver may be liable personally, depending on his negligence. The advantages of this rule of law is that the City can perform its necessary functions free from the interference of lawsuits which would consume time which should be devoted to the City's business and that the taxpayers'

money is used for the purposes of operating the City and not for the payment of claims caused by the carelessness of employees and the employees are made more careful because they can be sued personally. This exemption does not apply to the Water Department which is a revenue Department and performs a function that in many localities is performed by a private company.

BILL SHERMAN: That's a comprehensive answer, Mr. Angevine. Will you tell us something about other legal protections given to the City.

MR. ANGEVINE: Certainly, Bill. There are many other legal protections which are given to a City. The awarding of contracts and the purchasing of materials are regulated by statutes. Certain contracts have to be advertised. Certain contracts have to be in writing. The Department budget must have an amount equal to the contract price in unencumbered funds at the time the contract is executed. When a contract is executed by a Department, the cash balance in the budget account of that Department is encumbered to the extent of the contract price and that amount set aside to be used for paying that contract. Unless these formalities are complied with, the seller may not be able to collect, although the materials were supplied and were delivered as ordered. The person who sells to a city must be sure at his peril that the proper legal steps have been taken by the city. These precautions are necessary for the protection of the city.

BILL SHERMAN: Right here I would like to interrupt you and ask a leading question. From whom does the Department Head procure his spending authority?

MR. ANGEVINE: The Mayor and the Board of Aldermen decide in the budget how much the City shall spend, how much each Department shall spend and for what. If the City were liable for orders given by Department Heads in excess of their budget, then the financial controls which have been perfected to protect the taxpayer would become useless and every City employee could potentially determine the tax rate by purchasing equipment or supplies vastly in

excess of the amount budgeted. If any Department runs out of money it can come to the Board of Aldermen for additional funds before it executes a contract. To secure these funds it would have to explain why they were needed and why there were not funds available in the account to meet these needs. In this way, both the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen have to pass on expenses either in the budget or in appropriations subsequent to the budget. Some payments which cannot be made because some of the legal formalities were not complied with can be brought to this Committee as a claim and can be paid in that way. Thus, the Board of Aldermen authorized the payment of a large sum to a local hardware store which had supplied emergency equipment without a contract.

BILL SHERMAN: That's very interesting, Mr. Angevine. Maybe I'm presuming, but I suppose there are other types of claims, too.

MR. ANGEVINE: Yes, Bill, there are. In fact another type of claim involves defects in streets and sidewalks. These defects have to be substantial and the City must have known or should have known of them before there is any liability. Fortunately, there are not many of these claims, but citizens can help their City by reporting all such defects to the Street Department so that they can be repaired before an accident occurs.

BILL SHERMAN: Earlier you mentioned that the Claims & Rules Committee had a hand in all proposed changes in ordinances. Will you acquaint us with this phase of the laws?

MR. ANGEVINE: The laws of Newton are called "ordinances." Every municipality is a creature of the Commonwealth and in many ways can do only what the laws of Massachusetts allow it to do, but within this general framework of state control there is room for some legislative action by the Board of Aldermen. These ordinances cover many subjects.

BILL SHERMAN: I've heard much said in my travels about zoning ordinances. Do they present any particular problem to your Committee?

MR. ANGEVINE: The one which receives the most attention is the zoning ordinance. The Claims and Rules Committee, together with the Planning Board, hears petitions for changes in zones and recommends action to the Board. The Committee alone hears petitions for variances, such as one to allow an owner to erect a vestibule in the setback area or to build a fireproof garage on the lot line or to allow the remodelling of a house in a one-family zone to accommodate two families. This latter is one of the most difficult problems facing the Board. Newton is primarily an area of single-family homes. The objection to allowing a two-family house in a single-family zone is that it commercializes the area, brings business into a residential section and frequently results in lowering the value of the entire district. The two-family house is definitely a business proposition. Frequently it is not owner occupied. Tenants are more liable to be transients than are single-home owners. When the demand for apartments falls off the price will be lowered to keep the house occupied and the owner, especially if he does not live there, is liable to rent it to less desirable people. Such a house is not economically desirable for the City because it doubles the number of potential school children without doubling the assessed value. Newton will be far better off as a City of single-family homes, owner occupied. There are many examples of two-family houses which are kept in perfect repair and occupied by the highest type of citizen, but we can also look at other sections where the old one-family houses are now occupied by two or more families and the whole section looks run down and ill kept. Multiple dwellings have a very necessary place in any city but they must never be allowed to destroy the value of single family zones. It is better that one citizen takes a loss on the disposition of his house as a single family house than that an entire district be injured by permitting the house to be converted into a two-family one. The greatest problem in connection with this phase of zoning is the enforcement. One of our most

cherished rights is the one against illegal search. City authorities have no right of access to your house. The City cannot prevent an illegal use of the house unless it can prove this point. For this purpose it must rely on the neighbors. They are the ones who are being injured. The values of their properties are being decreased. They have the greatest personal interest in maintaining their neighborhood and they are the ones who can obtain the evidence needed to prevent the illegal use. If eternal vigilance is the price of liberty, so is eternal watchfulness and willingness to protect your home the price of enforcement of our zoning laws. It is a sad commentary that many people telephone me and state that they will not oppose a petition of this nature because the people are friends of theirs, but won't I please vote against it.

BILL SHERMAN: Your authentic answer is certainly educational as well as being most sound. Are there any other zoning problems?

MR. ANGEVINE: Another zoning problem, Bill, is the change of an area from one zone to another. The Board cannot arbitrarily make such a change. There should be an element of permanence about zoning so that people may rely on the continuance of the zoning laws covering the area in which they purchase their house. There should be clear and compelling reasons before a zone is changed. A zoning law must have real and substantial relation to the public safety, public health and public welfare. They must be reasonable. They must be justified by more than mere aesthetic considerations or a desire to secure the largest return for the property. In every petition for a change the Board must examine the growth of the area, the effect of the change on the City and on the owners and whether or not the change is desirable. A zone should not be changed unless there are compelling reasons for the change. People should examine the zoning laws before they buy to be sure what can be done on the property they are buying and what can be done on the adjoining pieces. Many parcels zoned for business and manufacturing are vacant or occupied for residential purposes.

An owner does not have to use his property for the purpose for which it is zoned to retain his zoning privileges, and the Board should be very slow to take away from such an owner his right to use his property as permitted by the zoning ordinance because abutters are using their property for a different purpose. Zoning laws are to protect residential areas from business and manufacturing as well as to protect business from residential and manufacturing from both. Every decision relating to zoning hurts someone, but it is only in this way that we can have a prosperous, vigorous and growing Newton.

BILL SHERMAN: Thank you, Alderman Ernest G. Angevine, Vice-President of the Newton Board of Aldermen and Chairman of the Claims and Rules Committee.

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CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS RADIO PROGRAM
INTRODUCTION OF: HON. WINFIELD C. ANDERSON
BY HAROLD T. PILSBURY DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Hello again, Bill.

May 15, 1950

This afternoon, we will broadcast for the 38th time in this Series of Newton City Hall Informational Programs designed to acquaint the Newton citizenry with municipal operations.

It is our pleasure today to present Alderman-at-large Winfield C. Anderson, Chairman of the Franchises and Licenses Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Our speaker was born in Wilmington, Delaware. He was educated in Philadelphia and has resided in Newton for 29 years. Mr. Anderson's residence is located on Elmhurst Road in Ward 7. His wife is the former Katherine Buckley of Newton and they have two children, Anthony L. and Mary Elizabeth, nine year old twins.

Mr. Anderson was first elected to the Board in 1947 and he has served on several standing committees including Claims and Rules, Public Buildings, Legislation and Franchises and Licenses. Also he served as a member of the Select Committee on Public Relations. He has been Chairman since 1949 of the Franchises and Licenses Committee. He, too, is currently a member of the Select Committee on Ward Lines.

In the business world, Mr. Anderson is the sole proprietor of Anderson & Company, an Advertising Agency, with a printing and publishing plant located at 156 Pearl Street, Boston. He is Editor of "The Atlantic Log", a lumber company monthly magazine which has received many honors for outstanding achievement including top awards of the International Industrial Editors Association of America, Direct Mailing Advertising Association and the Associated Industries of Massachusetts. He also is Editor of "Clear Cuttings" produced for a Tennessee lumber and manufacturing firm, as well as ^{the} "Andirons", a monthly publication of the Anderson & Company. Mr. Anderson also conducts the Gorham Instrument Co., a mail order concern.

Mr. Anderson has been most active in Newton Community Chest Campaigns. He served as Divisional Chairman of the Graphic Arts Division of the Greater Boston Community Campaign. Likewise, he participated in the Newton-Wellesley Hospital Building Fund Campaign and he



was a member of the Speakers Bureau of the Children's Medical Center Fund Campaign.

Mr. Anderson, a Lieut. Senior grade in the U. S. Coast Guard of World War I, received the American Theatre of Operations Ribbon. He is now in the inactive reserve.

Our speaker is a member of Crosscup-Pishon Post #281, American Legion, Newton Post #48, American Legion, Massachusetts Commandery, Naval Order of the U. S., the Shield Club, Advertising Club of Boston, Mass., Industrial Editors Association, Boston Host Lions Club, Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Mass., Newton Lodge of Elks, No. 1327, Coast Guard League and the Graphic Art Institute of New England.

Mr. Anderson is more busy than a blacksmith at a race track yet he still finds time to pursue his hobbies which include fishing and golf, plus a few night sessions in his photographic darkroom until the wee hours of the morning.

Today, Mr. Anderson, in person, a gentleman of established reputation with many accomplishments to his credit will discuss the diversified phases, functions and prerogative of the Franchises and Licenses Committee.

It is a distinct privilege, Bill, to present to and through you to the radio audience, Honorable Winfield C. Anderson, Chairman of the Franchises and Licenses Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

HONORABLE WINFIELD C. ANDERSON

-CHAIRMAN-

FRANCHISES AND LICENSES COMMITTEE

NEWTON BOARD OF ALDERMEN

MR. ANDERSON: Good afternoon, Bill, I am pleased to have this opportunity to explain to the citizens of Newton a few of many matters that are referred to the Franchises and Licenses Committee.

BILL SHERMAN: We're happy to have you with us today, too, Mr. Anderson. We are aware that your Committee has many matters to consider, so to start our interview we would first like to determine what are some of the functions that concern the Franchises and Licenses Committee.

MR. ANDERSON: The Franchises and Licenses Committee is concerned with many matters relating to public service corporations, licenses and permits. Applications for certificates of incorporation, renewal of auctioneer's licenses, permits for taxi stands, pool rooms and bowling alleys are only a few of the diversified matters that come before this Committee.

BILL SHERMAN: That's enlightening, Mr. Anderson. Will you tell us what authority governs the granting of Franchises?

MR. ANDERSON: That's a good question, Bill. Under the General Laws, Chapter 166, Paragraphs 21-43 inclusive, franchises may be granted for wire systems. This includes transmission of intelligence by electricity or telephone or transmission of electricity for lighting, heating or power, or for operation of street railway or electric railroad.

BILL SHERMAN: I presume, petitions for the construction of lines proposed is one of the first steps that must be taken.

MR. ANDERSON: Yes, Bill. Notices must be mailed by the City Clerk to all owners of real estate abutting on that part of the way where construction is proposed, the ownership to be determined by the last assessment for taxes. Of course, several days notice must be given. Plans in detail are filed covering the proposed construction, specifying:

(a) Location of lines, piers, abutments or conduits to be placed, the kind of poles, piers or abutments to be used, the number of wires or cables to be run and if overhead line, the height to which the wires or cables are to be run.

The Committee considers the details of the plans and petition and reports their findings to the full Board. The legal fee for a Location Order is \$3.00.

Poles are erected on unaccepted streets as soon as houses are erected, by agreement with the owners of land on the streets. After the streets are accepted by the City, the Edison or Telephone Company petition the Board of Aldermen for legal permits for the poles already erected.

BILL SHERMAN: That's most informative, Mr. Anderson. I've heard about changes after construction of lines. What is involved on such proposed changes?

MR. ANDERSON: On petitions for changes after construction of lines the Committee considers the proposed change and without a hearing may recommend to the full Board:

- A. An increase in wires or cables.
- B. A change in the location of poles
- C. A change in the height of wires or cables.
- D. The validation of existing poles formerly existing in a private way.
- E. The abandonment of pole locations.
- F. The validation of existing conduit or manhole location formerly existing in a private way.
- G. The transfer of an existing location from one company to another.
- H. The attachment of wires of a petitioner to the pole locations granted to another.
- I. The right to maintain its wires in the conduit location granted to another.
- J. To grant joint locations on existing poles to be used in common by them.

BILL SHERMAN: You have given us more valid reasons for changes than I thought possible, Mr. Anderson. I understand that bus lines must be properly regulated, too.

MR. ANDERSON: Yes, Bill. The regulation of bus transportation for hire in the City of Newton is regulated by Chapter VI of the Revised Ordinances of 1939 (pages 431-435). Under authority of the Board of Aldermen a contract exists with the Middlesex & Boston Street Railway Company under which this Company agrees to furnish all bus transportation the City may need, and the City agrees that before issuing a franchise to another bus line company, it will give the M. & B. Street

Railway Company an opportunity to furnish such additional service, not now in force, as the Board may decide the public convenience and necessity requires. This Committee considers and makes its recommendation to the Board after hearings upon all petitions for -

1. The extension of present lines for general service.
2. New bus service for the transportation of school children (usually on recommendation of the School Board).
3. The discontinuance or change in present schedules or routes, and passes upon the type of bus to be used, the schedules of arrival and departure, and the rates of fares.

Orders are subject to approval by the Department of Public Utilities.

BILL SHERMAN: I well understand now, Mr. Anderson that the Franchises Division of your Committee entails considerable work. Now, I'd like to ask you some questions that pertain to Licenses. Will you tell us, please, something about the types of Licenses that your Committee processes?

MR. ANDERSON: There are many types of licenses, Bill. To start with, inflammable liquids and explosives come under the General Laws, Chapter 148 of the State Fire Prevention Statute - this Committee as the Licensing Committee of the Legislative Branch of the City Government - considers all petitions relating to the following matters.

1. The Storing, manufacturing and use of explosives. In Newton these largely relate to the storage of black powder and the setting off of fireworks for trial purposes, together with the right to manufacture fireworks.

2. Then there is the keeping, using and storage of inflammable liquids. These petitions are of several kinds, one of which is gasoline, (1) to store and use for private use only including tanks and pumps. (2) to erect, conduct and maintain service stations for sale of gasoline and in connection therewith to install pumps, tanks, etc., to increase storage capacity and install additional pumps, to change style of pumps, to erect or add to lubritorium, change service station or add to it, to erect a garage in connection therewith

and to construct ramps or driveways to a station.

Then there is the matter of cleansing fluids and the right to store and use for private use only gasoline, valvolene and other cleansing fluids for laundries or cleansing establishments including tanks and pumps. Finally, there is fuel oil and requests to keep, store and sell range and fuel oil in large quantities as a basis for truck deliveries, to store and use range and fuel oil in large quantities for private use, to keep, store and sell range and fuel oil in connection with filling stations.

BILL SHERMAN: Before this broadcast, Mr. Anderson, you brought up the subject of garages. Will you tell us how they are handled?

MR. ANDERSON: I'd be glad to. Hearings are required before the full Board for Public Garages and for Private Garages for more than 3 cars. Public Garages must be located in business or manufacturing zones. Subject to the provision of the building code and zoning ordinance, permits of the following kinds may be recommended by this Committee: private garages for more than three cars, alterations or additions to existing garages, public garages, automobile repair shops and change of location of garages. Under the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance and the Rules and Orders of the Board, the Committee on Claims and Rules also consider these petitions, particularly where variances from the Ordinance requirements are necessary. After licenses for public garages, gasoline stations, etc., are granted by the Board of Aldermen, they remain in force indefinitely, providing required annual statements are filed with the City Clerk before April 30th each year, with payment of the required fee therefor, reciting continuation of use, etc.

BILL SHERMAN: That's most informative, Mr. Anderson. I suppose licenses for sale of motor vehicles is another type that comes before your Committee and with considerable variety.

MR. ANDERSON: Yes, and I'm glad you brought that subject to the front, Bill. Licenses for the sale of motor vehicles are issued on a calendar year basis, all licenses expire on January First. They may be renewed in December for the following year.

They are of the following kinds -- 1st Class License to deal in used cars.

These are granted to those having a sales agency to permit them to dispose of the used cars taken in trade.....2nd Class License to deal in used cars. These are granted to those concerns whose business is to deal solely in the sale of used cars.....3rd Class License to deal in used cars.

A public hearing is required before 3rd Class Licenses are granted. These are issued to dealers who dismantle used cars and dispose of the parts.

Open air display of used cars. This may be granted in connection with a 1st or 2nd Class License to deal in used cars, and outdoor display is permitted only under such a license. Incidentally, for the better interests of the City a General Rule of our Committee requires 1st or 2nd Class License holders, dealing in used cars to specify where such cars will be displayed or housed and that in no instance may used cars be displayed for sale out of doors. We believe that this requirement is in keeping with best interests of the Garden City.

BILL SHERMAN: There sure is a variety. I've been waiting for you to mention Auctioneer and Taxi Licenses. How are they issued?

MR. ANDERSON: Auctioneer Licenses are issued on a yearly basis and as of the residence of the applicant. Applicants must have lived in Newton 6 months previous to date of the original application.

Taxi Licenses are of two classes, 1st and 2nd Class, and are issued on a yearly basis. Taxi Licenses expire on May 1st and may be renewed in April for year following: A first Class License permits the carrying for hire and the maintaining of a public stand on the City's streets. The stand is assigned by the Board. A Second Class License permits the carrying for hire and soliciting business over the telephone. In both cases the office of the licensee must be in a business district.

BILL SHERMAN: What other types of yearly licenses are requested of your Committee?

MR. ANDERSON: There are many types, Bill. All expire on May 1st and may be renewed in April

for the year following; such as licenses for Billard Tables, Pool Tables and Bowling Alleys; Dealers in second hand articles; amusement parks; power Boats; Intelligence Offices; Junk Collectors; Street Musicians; Express Wagons and Trucks; Hackney Carriages or Taxi; To Keep and Sell Firearms and Lodging Houses. These licenses as well as renewals, must have the approval of the Chief of Police, and petitions may include transfer to new locations. It might be well for me to state right here, Bill -----we are giving considerable attention to the matters of revising our schedule of license fees primarily because Newton is the one municipality that charges too little for its licenses.

When it comes to the moving of buildings- - - this Committee must consider and report to the full Board its recommendations on all petitions for moving buildings through the streets of the City.

There is also the subject of Public Weighers. When the Mayor recommends the appointment of a Public Weigher, for general convenience or for the benefit of a private concern, this Committee must pass on the appointment.

BILL SHERMAN: What about the Public Performance by Minors and licenses for Street Musicians?

MR. ANDERSON: When it comes to Public Performance by Minors, Bill, a permit is required for the Public Performance of Minors where admission is charged. Our Committee passes on these.

On the matter of Street Musicians - - - There may be no performance on a musical instrument in the City streets - including a sound truck - without a license from the Board of Aldermen. Our Committee passes on this originally and reports to the Board.

BILL SHERMAN: Very interesting and certainly very definite. I suppose, Mr. Anderson, reports of some kind are necessary or at least investigations must be made by someone to cover all the applications coming before your Board.

MR. ANDERSON: Yes, these are of two kinds- Reports to the Secretary of the Commonwealth which under the General Laws require a report from a city or town on every person whose name is used on an application for incorporation under Chapter 180 as to whether he has been convicted of breaking the Prohibition Law, or other law.

The Mayor and Aldermen are required to report upon request of the Secretary of the Commonwealth upon an application for certificates of incorporation, reporting that applicants have not been engaged in the illegal gaming, or in any other business or vocation prohibited by law, that they are not persons of ill repute and report also whether any location to be occupied in the City is unsuitable. The Police Department is asked to investigate and report to the Board of Aldermen on all applications before action is taken by the Board. The Chief of Police furnishes the information and the report is favorable or unfavorable according to the information furnished.

The second type is the Report to the Department of Public Works. Under this upon any application to the Outdoor Advertising Authority for a Billboard, it is referred to the city or town where it is proposed to be installed, to see if there is objection. This is referred to this Committee and if there is objection, the reason must be stated. The Newton Ordinances covering this matter are contained in the Building Code and Amendments to the Ordinances. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Outdoor Advertising Authority notifies the Board of Aldermen of applications for Outdoor Advertising Signs. If an objection is filed, the Authority will then give a public hearing if requested within 10 days of notice from the Authority. The City of Newton Building Code also requires permits for advertising signs.

The Buildings Commissioner's interpretation of the law is that "Signs" covered by the Building Code are for advertising goods sold on the premises; and that "Billboards" are for advertising goods not manufactured or sold on the premises, and are acted on by the Outdoor Advertising Authority.

BILL SHERMAN: Thank you, Alderman Winfield C. Anderson, Chairman of the Franchises and Licenses Committee of the Newton Board of Alderman, for such an extended treatment of diversified subjects. We are grateful for your appearance on this program today.

CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS
RADIO PROGRAM
INTRODUCTION OF HAROLD A. WOOSTER
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AND LIBRARIAN OF THE NEWTON FREE LIBRARY

May 22, 1950

Greetings, Bill: -

This is our 39th Broadcast in this Series of Newton City Hall Informational Programs designed to acquaint the citizens of Newton with operations within the Newton City Government.

We are privileged today to present Harold A. Wooster, Secretary of the Board of Trustees and Librarian of the Newton Free Library.

Mr. Wooster previously participated in this Series last fall at which time we were acquainted with the long and effective history of service of the Newton Free Library. Also, the fact the Newton Free Library has not yet exhausted its possibilities of service inasmuch as the Library has a circulation at the rate of over three-quarters of a million books for the year 1949. This is a splendid record, indeed of achievement.

Today, Mr. Wooster, in person is going to discuss and acquaint us with The Read Fund - - a legacy bequeathed to the City of Newton by the late Charles A. Read and administered by a Board of Trustees, consisting of three persons, all of whom serve without compensation.

It is a happy privilege for me, Bill, to present to you and through you to our radio audience Newton's Librarian, Harold A. Wooster.

Under his direction as a Trustee The Read Fund is administered.

Mr. Wooster, here once again is Bill Sherman, Special Events Director for Radio Station WCRB.

Next week at the same hour we will present Honorable Clyde S. Casady, Chairman of the Education and Ward Lines Committees of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

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WCRB RADIO BROADCAST
HAROLD A. WOOSTER
LIBRARIAN
READ FUND

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE READ FUND
OF THE
CITY OF NEWTON

May 22, 1950

BILL SHERMAN: What is the Read Fund of the City of Newton? Does it have to do with "reading books"?

MR. WOOSTER: The Read Fund is a public benefaction of Mr. Charles Read, prominent and public spirited Newton Citizen who died in 1882 and left the sum of forty-thousand dollars to the City for educational and philanthropic purposes.

The will of Mr. Read was a very interesting document. In addition to the bequest mentioned above, he left to his native city of Salem the sum of forty-thousand dollars to be expended for precisely the same objects. After bequests to his family, he directed that the residue of his property is left to the Treasurer of the United States in reduction of the War Debt. (It was the first time following the Civil War that there had been a sizeable debt, and business men felt it was improper for the United States to be in debt.) Beside the will which was dated 1869, there was an unsigned will made in 1879 which annulled the bequest to the United States Treasurer and to the City of Salem, but being without signature, the will was void. Search was made for a journal, and it was stated that Mr. Read intended to more than double his gift to the City of Newton.

In the unsigned will, there was a provision which read, "To the City of Newton \$100,000. for a home for aged persons of both sexes, \$50,000. to each, both to be located in Wards 1 or 7, Newton. " In the period right after the Civil War, Newton Corner was very much the center of the Newtons and a section of the City of special interest to Mr. Read. His benefaction was generous and the one that he was considering was even larger.

In recent years the present Read Fund Trustees have faced problems of re-investment of funds, of re-organization of its work and purpose. It has been difficult to know the type of scientific lectures which will be of public interest and value and will be well attended. This matter is receiving careful study.

BILL SHERMAN: What were the purposes of the Read Fund?

MR. WOOSTER: At a time when less was being done for children he designated that the income of his legacy should be expended:

1. "For an annual sleighride or picnic for the children of Newton Corner;"
2. "For free lectures on scientific subjects at Newton Corner";
3. "For books for the Public Library at Newton Corner;"
4. "And the balance to poor widows in any part of Newton".

BILL SHERMAN: Have there been any recent sleighrides under terms of this will?

MR. WOOSTER: There may be persons in Newton who can remember a Read Fund sleighride or picnics at Norumbega Park. During the war years the Fund was not in active

operation. Since 1946 the picnic provisions have been worked out through the Recreation Commissioner of the City of Newton with an annual picnic held at the Burr Playground in August. The annual expenditure of this has been approximately two-hundred dollars. This has been a very pleasing event in the program of supervised recreation of the Commission.

BILL SHERMAN: What about lectures?

MR. WOOSTER: A great many have attended Read Fund lectures. For many years Professor Gregg gave free public lectures at the Hunnewell Club under auspices of this Fund. In recent years several Read Fund lectures have been given in the auditorium of the Underwood School. One of the most successful of these was by Mr. Bradford Washburn of the Boston Museum of Science. In 1948 several lectures on atomic energy were given by research scientists connected with Harvard and M. I. T. In 1949 a lecture on Oceanography was given by the Director of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Plans are now under consideration for an important lecture or lectures in the Fall of 1950. Suggestions from the public as to the type of lecture or speaker are welcomed.

BILL SHERMAN: What sort of books have been purchased for the Newton Free Library by means of the Read Fund?

MR. WOOSTER: Because of Mr. Read's interest in children, part of the receipts of this Fund have been expended for children's books, and the last receipt of this Fund is being expended for books concerning science as another special interest of Mr. Read. It is of interest that an oil painting of Mr. Read is in the Reference Room of the Main Building.

BILL SHERMAN: How does the Fund operate?

MR. WOOSTER: The provisions are that the Board of Trustees of the Read Fund shall consist of three persons and shall serve without compensation. The City Treasurer is Treasurer of the Board and Custodian of the Fund.

The present Trustees are Frank Brittain Kennedy, Douglass B. Francis, and Harold A. Wooster. The Trustees are appointed by the Mayor of the City and confirmed by the Board of Aldermen. The Board was reorganized in 1944 with three new appointments, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Franklin K. Hoyt, and Mr. Wooster. In 1947 Mr. Douglass replaced Mr. Hoyt.

BILL SHERMAN: Is the Newton Free Library greatly aided by the additional revenue it receives from funds?

MR. WOOSTER: While the income from these funds is not a major part of its operating budget, they have been a most important factor in building up the book collection. Practically all income from funds is expended for books.

BILL SHERMAN: Are there other Funds which benefit the Newton Free Library?

MR. WOOSTER: The Jewett Art Fund left by David B. Jewett has been the means of building up the strong art collection at the Main Library and in purchasing the collection of musical records which can be borrowed. The income from this Fund is some six hundred dollars a year. The John C. Chaffin Fund, the Mary Shannon Fund and the Horace S. Cousens Fund, (for the benefit of the Newton Centre Branch Library) provide approximately \$200. each year in

income for the purchase of books. A Fund left by Frank H. Howes, President of the Board of Trustees from 1907-1929 established the duplicate pay collection which has added many thousand popular books to the Library. Other Library Funds are the Alden Speare, Sarah Lorane Graves, Oliver Fisher, Willard E. Harding, Elizabeth L. Rand, Elizabeth Spear, Sarah Elizabeth Lawton, J. S. Farlowe, Fannie Moorhead Blanchard, Seth B. Poole, Funds. The John R. Prescott Memorial Fund has greatly aided the Newtonville Branch Library, and the income from the William C. Strong Memorial Fund benefits the Waban Branch Library. There are two Funds, and two book collections in honor of former Branch Librarians, the Mabel A. Singleton Memorial Fund at Newton Highlands and the Dr. Fannie M. McGee Memorial Fund at Waban. Last year the income from Library Funds was \$5,417. Recently \$500., one half of a bequest from the Estate of Mary L. McCandlish, was received. In addition to the Funds which have been given, many Newton Citizens contributed TO THE ERECTION OF THE FIVE MODERN BRANCH libraries which were erected by public subscription and given to the City. The late Frederick Plummer was a benefactor of the Plummer Memorial-Auburndale Branch Library. Citizen interest is essential to institutions of public education.

BILL SHERMAN: Going from books to buildings, is there progress on the plans for improving and extending the Main Library Building at 414 Centre Street?

MR. WOOSTER: Yes, I am very glad to report progress. The next step will be repairs to the Main Building including new stairs to the second floor and an entrance so that the public can enter and leave the building without climbing any steps. Estimates have been called for by the Public Buildings Commissioner and will be received by him on May 29. It is hoped that repair work can start shortly after this date.

BILL SHERMAN: What about the addition?

MR. WOOSTER: Mr. H. J. Carlson, retired architect, has very generously aided the Board of Library Trustees and the City of Newton in preliminary studies for this addition. Announcement will be made in the very near future of the appointment of a practicing architect to draw up the plans and specifications for this addition. It is our hope that these will be ready so that competitive bids can be secured and the work started by early fall. There is a great deal of interest as to the major improvement that this addition will make in the appearance and the usefulness of this Main Library Building, the front section of which dates back to the days of Mr. Read.

The original stone Library Building at 414 Centre Street was dedicated June 17, 1870, J. Wiley Edmands and John C. Chaffin were major contributors. It was in March, 1876 that the Newton Free Library was given to the City of Newton as a Free Public Library.

This Building was enlarged in 1886, again in 1912, and will be greatly improved by the proposed addition. A major improvement will be the extension of first floor service so that many patrons will be able to secure the books they wish without climbing stairs. For the student the rearrangement and extension of the first floor will make possible an enlarged, improved reference department on the second floor, there will also be a special business reference room. The basement stack of the new addition will provide storage for many thousand books in a convenient location. The improvement of the Main Library will improve service to the branch libraries. Between repairs, changes and planning it should be a very busy summer on library matters.

MLE

CITY OF NEWTON PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
INTRODUCTION OF
HONORABLE CLYDE S. CASADY
BY
HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

May 29, 1950

Greetings, Bill: -

This afternoon, we will broadcast for the 40th time in this Series of Newton City Hall Informational Programs designed to acquaint the Newton citizenry with municipal operations.

It is our pleasure today to present Alderman Clyde S. Casady, Chairman of the Education and Ward Lines Committees, of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Our speaker was born in Cantril, Iowa, and was educated in the public schools Iowa, Kansas and Colorado where he spent his boyhood. Graduating from the University of Iowa in 1930, where he majored in economics, Mr. Casady also was holder of a teaching fellowship between 1930-32 at Tufts College where he taught part-time and received his Master's Degree.

Mr. Casady has resided in Newton for 13 years, and he chose Newton because of the excellent reputation of its schools. The Casady's have three daughters, Carolyn, age 12; Gail, age 8, who attends the Angier School in Waban, and Christine, almost 4.

Mr. Casady was first elected to the Board in 1947 and he has served on several Standing Committees including Franchises and Licenses, Public Buildings, of which he became Chairman in 1949, and Education Committee. Also, he served as a member of the Select Joint School Committee. He, too, is currently Chairman of the Education and Ward Lines Committees, and a member of the Claims and Rules and Public Works Committees.

In the business world, Mr. Casady is Executive Vice-President of the Savings Bank Life Insurance Council - - - a statutory corporation comprised of 34 member savings banks which have established life insurance departments.

In our community Mr. Casady also has been active in the Angier Parent-Teachers Association and was co-chairman of a group of 12 couples who made a survey of the curriculum, objectives and activities of the Angier Elementary School. They published a series of bulletins on all phases of their findings and these were consolidated and reprinted in the Annual Report of the Newton School System (1948) under the title "Home & School Partnersh
This hobby" may explain in part Mr. Casady's interest in good schools.

Presently, our speaker is a trustee of the West Newton Savings Bank, a Director of the New England Financial Advertisers Association.

Mr. Casady has participated in Newton Community Chest and Church Fund Drives, the Waban Neighborhood Club, the Union Church Men's Club and he served as Vice-President and a Director of the Newton Community Council.

Today, Mr. Casady, in person, a gentleman delighted with this City's advantages, conveniences and opportunities, will be interviewed on two matters, namely Education and the objectives of Ward Lines.

I take pleasure in presenting to you, Bill, and through you to our radio audience, Honorable Clyde S. Casady, Chairman of the Education and Ward Lines Committees of the Newton Board of Aldermen. Mr. Casady, here's Bill Sherman, Special Events Director of Radio Station WCRB,

Next week, at the same hour, we will present for our 41st Broadcast, Honorable Edward A. Fahey, Chairman of the Street Traffic Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

WCRB RADIO BROADCAST - MAY 29, 1950
ALDERMAN CLYDE S. CASADY
- CHAIRMAN -
COMMITTEES ON
EDUCATION AND WARD LINES

Thank you, Bill. In my dual appearance here as chairman of two totally different committees, perhaps we had better divide our time and discuss the two separately.

The Committee on Education of the Board of Aldermen is the liason between the Board and the School Committee.

It consists of three members appointed by the President - one from the Finance Committee, one from the Public Buildings Committee, and one other from the Board at large. Members of this Committee meet from time to time with representatives of the School Committee to discuss problems of joint concern.

Under the rules of the Board, the joint committee deals with "matters relating to expenditures for schools, including suggested needs and preliminary plans for new classrooms and facilities as proposed by the School Committee."

Q. Specifically, Mr. Casady, what types of problems does the joint committee consider?

In general, all of our discussions deal with the needs and relative urgency of new schools in relation to other citizen needs and demands for services and facilities in terms of the city's ability to finance them.

Q. What do you mean "other citizen needs and demands".

We have to recognize that there are always individuals and groups who are aggressively seeking specific objectives--whether it be the acceptance of their street, sewer service, increased wages or reduced hours for city employees, playground facilities, or new schools.

Most all of the projects have merit. Individually, the cost may seem nominal. Collectively, they mount up and may become prohibitive in any given time. Projects must be staggered and some order of relative urgency established.

Fortunately for Newton, in 1948 our long-range Planning Board, after studying all requests and probable revenue, prepared an overall capital expenditures program totalling about \$10,000,000 for the six-year period, 1948 - 53. Their recommendations are, of course, not binding but serve as an extremely useful guide to the Mayor, Board of Aldermen, and city departments.

Q. How much of the 10 million was suggested for schools?

About a third - \$3,233,000 to be exact.

Q. How soon was this to be available?

The Planning Board recommended that it be spent before the end of 1951. There are two reasons for this urgency. First, because we have an immediate need for many new classrooms. Newton not only shared in the nation-wide increase in birth rates following the war, which means a wave of new youngsters entering our schools, but our city is also in the midst of a building boom. A complicating factor is that most of the new homes are being built on the south side of the City where existing schools are already over-crowded. So additional classrooms are a must while at the same time, some obsolete structures should be replaced.

The other reason for haste is to make sure that we will be eligible for State reimbursement of 20% of the cost of our new schools. Under the School Building Assistance Act which expires in 1951, plans must be filed and approved within that time in order to be eligible for such reimbursement.

Q. Will the \$3,200,000 allocated be enough to meet the need for new schools in Newton?

No, I'm sorry to say, it's only the beginning of an extensive program which will ultimately total about \$10,000,000. That's a lot of money -- even in these days. With so many other needs and demands for improved and increased services,--new streets, sewers, fire stations, libraries and recreational facilities, it necessitates careful planning and intelligent action.

Here is where our Committee on Education from the Board of Aldermen meeting with members of the School Committee serves a useful purpose. We have met frequently during the past three years and the frank discussions of all phases of school needs and expenditures in relation to other city needs and expenditures has been extremely worthwhile.

I might add that Mayor Lockwood has attended most of our joint meetings and has been extremely constructive and cooperative. At times, the Public Buildings Commissioner, the Recreation Commissioner, the Public Works Director, and representatives of the Planning Board have also participated in our conferences.

Q. Does the joint committee take action on the problems under consideration?

No -- not officially. Our function is simply to explore "suggested needs and preliminary plans for new classrooms and facilities" and to exchange points of view without in any way committing the School Committee or the Board of Aldermen as to their future action.

Under the State law, the School Committee is independent and supreme in determining its needs for funds to operate our schools, except for constructing and maintaining buildings, which under our charter is within the province of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen. Aside from appropriations for buildings, the city must provide whatever funds the School Committee deems necessary to operate our schools. Neither the Mayor nor the Board of Aldermen can reduce any item in the school budget. Incidentally, in 1949, the school budget represented 31¢ out of every tax dollar.

Q. Then the Mayor and Board of Aldermen have the final decision as to number, location, and size of new schools?

In effect, yes, although under our charter, the School Committee initiates requests for school facilities and specifies the locality and nature of the need.

Here is where our joint committee functions. We explore together practical considerations regarding community needs, present and future, the proposed site, and relative urgency. If immediate action seems desirable, the School Committee makes an official request to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for land takings, when required, and for an appropriation for an architect to prepare plans and specifications.

Q. What progress is being made on the building program?

In my opinion, it is both considerable and satisfactory.

In 1948, the addition to Technical High School costing \$385,000 was completed.

Last year, construction was started on two new elementary schools - the Williams in Auburndale, soon to be occupied, and the new Memorial School in Oak Hill Park, which will be ready in September of this year.

Additions were also made to the Ward School in Newton Centre and to the Franklin School in West Newton. These are now in use.

The total cost of these four projects was \$1,525,000.

Plans for the replacement of the Pierce School in West Newton and the Bowen School in Newton Centre are completed and ready for bids, with occupancy planned for September 1951.

Architects are finishing work on plans to replace the Claflin School in Newtonville and for a new school on Brookline Street near Bald Pate Hill.

Steps have been taken to acquire land for new elementary schools on Murray Road, Auburndale, and on Upland Road, Newton Highlands. Plans are being made for additions to various schools when the need becomes clear. Study is being made of the need to enlarge playground areas at Emerson School, Upper Falls, Davis School, West Newton, and Warren Junior High, West Newton. Preliminary consideration is being given to the eventual replacement of the Mason School, Newton Centre, to the need for new Junior High Schools in Oak Hill and on the Cold Springs Playground in Newton Highlands, and the conversion of Weeks School to a second High School.

Newton is well started on a comprehensive, soundly conceived and soundly financed school building program which should take care of our expanding needs, within our ability to pay.

Q. Thank you, Mr. Casady. Now before time runs out, won't you say a word about the Ward Lines Committee of the Board of Aldermen of which you are also chairman.

Under our city charter, Newton is divided into 7 wards from which 1 member of the School Committee and 3 aldermen are elected.

To assure fair representation, the General Laws of Mass., provide that city wards shall contain about an equal number of voters. Originally, our wards in Newton did. But they vary widely in area, and in recent years the large, undeveloped areas in the south side of the city have been built up rapidly. As a result, the number of voters in the present wards has become badly unbalanced, and the differential is widening.

To illustrate, in 1948, the three largest wards in the City -- Wards 2, 5 and 6, contained 58.5% of the registered voters. In contrast, the three smallest -- Wards 1, 4 and 7, contained fewer than half as many -- only 27.5% of the voters.

The two largest wards -- 5 and 6, each contain more than twice as many voters as there are in any of the 3 smallest wards yet they have exactly the same representation on the School Committee and in the Board of Aldermen. Obviously, this isn't equal representation as the State constitution stipulates.

Q. Has anyone tried to do anything about it before?

Oh yes. The unfairness of the situation has long been recognized. For example, former mayor Sinclair Weeks in his inaugural message on January 1, 1930, called attention to the existing inequalities and suggested a re-appraisal of ward lines. Again in 1934, Mayor Weeks called for a review of the situation.

In 1938, his successor, Mayor Edwin O. Childs, suggested consideration of what he called the "long deferred change in ward lines".

Following each of these recommendations, studies were undertaken and various plans proposed. Unfortunately, a satisfactory solution wasn't devised before the statutory deadline.

Q. What do you mean -- statutory deadline?

Under section 21 of the State constitution, beginning in 1935 and every tenth year thereafter, a special enumeration of the number of voters residing in each ward of a city is required to be made. This decennial census becomes the basis for determining the state representative, senatorial and councillor districts for the following ten-year period. During such time, ward lines within a city must remain fixed and cannot be changed.

Q. Then just when can they be changed?

In December preceding the year of the census. That is, they might have been changed in December 1944 but they weren't. So, the next time ward lines in Newton can be changed will be in December 1954.

If action isn't taken then, ward lines will remain fixed for another 10 years.

Q. Who has the power to change ward lines?

The Board of Aldermen. And I might point out that Chapter 54, Section 1 of the State law specifies that:

"The boundaries of such wards shall contain, as nearly as can be ascertained and as may be consistent with well-defined limits to each ward, an equal number of voters."

Q. Then you believe that the Board has a statutory mandate to change ward lines in December 1954 so that the number of voters in each ward will be about equal, do you Mr. Casady?

I certainly do and it is the function of our Committee to try to work out a practical and equitable solution to the present unbalanced situation.

Q. Well thank you Mr. Casady. Out time is up. Sometime, before December 1954, we'll want to hear the recommendations of your Committee.

NEWTON STATISTICS

WARD	REGISTERED VOTERS	%	STATE CENSUS	%
	<u>1948</u>		<u>1945</u>	
I	3,967	8.9	7,149	9.3
II	7,366	16.6	13,038	16.9
III	6,689	15.0	12,156	15.7
IV	4,401	9.9	7,376	9.5
V	9,552	21.5	16,572	21.5
VI	8,659	19.5	14,490	18.7
VII	3,856	8.7	6,476	8.4
	<u>44,490</u>		<u>77,257</u>	

CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
HONORABLE EDWARD A. FAHEY

BY
HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

June 5, 1950

Hello again, Bill:

Yes, Bill, this is our 41st Broadcast in this Series of Newton City Hall Informational Programs designed to acquaint the citizens of Newton with governmental operations.

It is our privilege today to present Aldermen Edward A. Fahey, Chairman of the Street Traffic Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Our speaker is a native of Newton and received his higher education at the Lowell Institute and Northeastern University School of Law from which he graduated with an L. L. D. Degree. Mr. Fahey resides in Nonantum, attends the Church of Our Lady Help of Christians, and is a bachelor. Mr. Fahey was first elected to the Board in 1937 and has served on nearly every Committee including Franchises & Licenses, of which he was Chairman 1938-1941, Public Buildings, Chairman 1946-1947, Public Works, Claims and Rules, Finance, Education, Legislation, Street Traffic, Ward Lines, Public Welfare and The Mayor's Address.

Currently Mr. Fahey is a member of the Finance and Claims & Rules Committee; also the Street Traffic Committee which he has Chairmanned since 1948.

In the professional world Mr. Fahey is an attorney-at-law and is located here in Newton. Likewise he is a member of the Massachusetts and Federal Bars.

During World War II our speaker was associated with the U. S. Army Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, as Communications Engineer.

His community interests include the Nonantum Civic Association of which he is President. Also, he has participated in Fund Raising for the Newton Community Chest, Newton-Wellesley Hospital, Salvation Army and the U. S. O. He served, too, as a Village Warden for the A. R. P. and was an Advisory Member of the Newton Draft Board.

Today, Mr. Fahey in person, a genial and respected gentleman of the Garden City and one who takes an active part in the development and progress of his City as well as the

the benefit and welfare of all citizens, will be interviewed on the official functions of his Committee.

It is my privilege, Bill, to present to you Honorable Edward A. Fahey, Chairman of the Street Traffic Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Fahey, here's Bill Sherman, Special Events Director of Radio Station WCRB.

Next week, Bill, at the same hour, we will present for our 42 Broadcast, Honorable Joseph B. Davis, Chairman of the Street Renaming Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

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WCRB RADIO BROADCAST - JUNE 5, 1950
ALDERMAN EDWARD A. FAHEY
- CHAIRMAN -
STREET TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

BILL SHERMAN: Will you tell us a little about what the Street Traffic Committee is and what it does?

MR. FAHEY: The Street Traffic Committee is one of the Select Committees of the Board of Aldermen. It is composed of seven aldermen, one from each of the seven wards. The official function of the Committee is to recommend to the Board of Aldermen new ordinances or changes in existing ordinances, pertaining to the use of the City's highways by traffic, both motor vehicle and pedestrian. Unofficially the Committee concerns itself with all matters with reference to the use of our highways, such as the installation of traffic signals at intersections, painting of cross-walks and center lines; proper parking of motor vehicles and the safe use of highways in the City.

BILL SHERMAN: Some of those items mentioned sound more like administrative detail rather than work of a legislative body.

MR. FAHEY: That is true. That is why I said unofficial. In our City the task of providing safe and easy travel on our highways and convenient parking is coordinated among the Board of Aldermen; Police Department and Highway Department. Each of these municipal agencies has duties prescribed by law or ordinance, but the problems of highway traffic and safety are so interminably related that each of the above mentioned agencies concerns itself with all the problems rather than restrict itself to its own official duties.

BILL SHERMAN: That is a very interesting set-up. Could you tell us how this is accomplished?

MR. FAHEY: Yes. In 1939 the Police Department alarmed by the number of fatal accidents in the City created a bureau to handle all matters relative to motor vehicle traffic including accident investigation; prosecution of violations of laws; parking; court procedure; photography; registration of bicycles and the supervision of safety education in the Newton Schools. The

Highway Department of the City also has created a special department known as its Traffic Department. This Department erects and maintains street signs, paints cross-walks and center lines, maintaining its own sign shop at Crafts Street. It also does other work, such as the cutting of shrubs and trees when safety requires. The supervisor of this Department, the Sergeant in Charge of Police Traffic Bureau and the Chairman of the Street Traffic Committee are in daily contact with each other, and by close cooperation these problems as they arise are studied and acted upon expeditiously.

BILL SHERMAN: Does the Street Traffic Committee concern itself with all problems of traffic and parking within the City?

MR. FAHEY: No. The work of our Committee relates to these matters on the highways only. Another Committee of the Board, namely the Off-Street Parking Committee, studies the problem of parking off the highways. Highways include all streets laid out by the City, both accepted and unaccepted, excepting those highways controlled by the State such as State Route No. 9, the so-called Worcester Turnpike.

BILL SHERMAN: Does the City of Newton have exclusive control over its highways in matters of traffic control and regulation?

MR. FAHEY: No. Before the City erects a traffic signal or a STOP sign, permission must be obtained from the State Department of Public Works. The state controls the erection and manner of operation of all traffic signals, and without its approval, the signals or signs are not official and violations resulting from their erection and operation are not punishable.

BILL SHERMAN: Would you tell us just what steps are taken before a STOP sign is erected and becomes official.

MR. FAHEY: The erection of a STOP sign at a particular location is suggested to our Committee, either by some member of the City Government, Police Department or maybe, any citizen. The accident frequency at the location is checked

by the Police Traffic Bureau, and a recommendation as to the necessity of the sign is made to the Traffic Committee where it is studied and its erection discussed. If approved by our Committee, a recommendation is made to the Board of Aldermen, and if approved by that body, the State Department of Public Works is notified and the location is further checked by that group. If approved, a permit is sent to the City of Newton and the Traffic Department of the Highway Department erects the sign. Incidentally, the City pays the expense of these signs and signals even though the State controls their erection. In this respect very close cooperation exists between our traffic set-up and the State. Their traffic engineers and experts are always at our service to advise and help solve any problem that may arise.

BILL SHERMAN: As the City is very large in both area and number of miles of streets, how does your Committee become cognizant that a specific problem of traffic or safety exists?

MR. FAHEY: A very good question. By complaint of citizens and by suggestions of citizens, bus drivers, and City Officials, particularly the Police Department Officers. In addition our Committee is in very close contact with the Police Traffic Bureau, and in conjunction with them attempt to anticipate conditions which may result in a traffic problem or even an accident. This involves periodic trips around the City and the close surveillance of factors which may portend trouble. Also, a constant analysis is made of accidents by the Police Traffic Bureau. If the accident frequency runs high at a given point, we attempt to remedy the cause of it. If the volume of traffic at an intersection becomes great, a traffic count is made, and if in our opinion traffic signals should be installed, we call upon the State Engineers for a survey and plan, which is either acted upon or filed away for future reference. Every complaint or suggestion we

receive is investigated shortly after received. The person offering the complaint or suggestion is personally contacted, and if there is merit to the complaint or suggestion, steps are taken to rectify the condition causing the complaint or suggestion.

BILL SHERMAN: You stated that your Committee supervises on street parking of motor vehicles. Would you tell us something about that?

MR. FAHEY: Yes. The improper parking of motor vehicles on the highways can be just as hazardous as moving vehicles. Also, parking in residential areas of the City can be annoying to residents, often a nuisance. We believe that every resident has the right to the full enjoyment of his property, unfettered by motor vehicles blocking his driveways. In business areas we believe that merchants are entitled to a reasonable curb parking turnover. For years diagonal parking was permitted in business areas. Now in these areas we are gradually restricting parking of cars to parallel parking, which is universally considered the safest type of parking and highly recommended by the State Department of Public Works and other National Safety agencies.

BILL SHERMAN: You say that this is being done gradually. If this type is considered the safest, why not make the change at once?

MR. FAHEY: There are several reasons for not doing so. The older villages of the City were laid out in the 1880's and 1890's when the motor vehicle was unknown. At the present time our off-street parking facilities are totally inadequate, and every available foot of highway in these areas is sorely needed. As parallel parking reduces the available parking space by about 1/3, this method of parking is not enforced until such time as ample off-street parking is available unless safety demands it.

BILL SHERMAN: You mentioned the establishment of The Police Traffic Bureau, in 1939, and the Traffic Department of the Highway Department. Since their formation have they been important factors in safety and traffic control in general?

MR. FAHEY:

Very much so. In the ten year period between 1930-1939 there were 91 fatal accidents in the City or an average of 9 per year. From 1940-1949 there were 38 fatal accidents or an average of 3.8 per year. Newton thru the work of its Traffic Bureau won first place in the Massachusetts Safety Council Contest in 1940-41-42-43 and 44. In 1947 Newton was awarded a plaque for ranking fourth in the National Traffic Safety Contest. These awards become more significant when we stop to realize that there are about 35,000 motor vehicles registered in the City with an estimated 100,000 cars traveling over the City's 300 miles of highways daily, sharing the roads with 13,000 bicycles registered with the Traffic Bureau and 86,000 people, many of them also crossing back and forth across the highways.

BILL SHERMAN:

The work of your Committee seems to be the recognition of and solution of small problems rather than major costly improvements, is it not?

MR. FAHEY:

Yes. That is very true. The cost of the work in which we are interested is represented by an item of about \$25,000 in the City Budget and \$6,500 for new traffic signals, merely a drop in the bucket in a ten million dollar budget. Newton today, like every other city is geared to the motor vehicle. The demands resulting from this tie are many, yet most are simple and not costly. Most of our work consists in doing many small things. Benefits brought by a series of small improvements are so great they can no more be ignored than benefits produced by needed major improvements such as costly off-street parking. Small improvements bring immediate, yet lasting results. Traffic problems make up but one of the illnesses affecting cities, but they are major illnesses. Hardening of the traffic arteries are just as painful to a city as their counterpart is to the human body.

CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
HONORABLE JOSEPH B. DAVIS
BY

HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

June 12, 1950

Greetings, Bill: -

Once again, Bill, in fact for the 42 time, we are prepared to acquaint the citizens of Newton with another phase of Municipal Governmental Operations, on this Newton City Hall Public Relations Program.

Today, in person, we are privileged to have with us Alderman Joseph B. Davis, Chairman of the Street Renaming Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Our speaker was born in West Newton and has always resided in that village. He, too, was educated in the Newton Public Schools. Mr. Davis is the father of two children. His eldest daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Williams, has two children and resides in Baltimore. His second daughter, Mary, lives at home, and the family are members of St. Bernard's Catholic Church, West Newton.

In the business world Mr. Davis has conducted his own plumbing business for the past 32 years, and he also manages real estate holdings.

Our speaker was first elected to the Board in 1947 and has served on several Committees including the Franchises and Licenses, Public Buildings, Legislation, Municipal Parking and Meters. Currently he is Chairman of the Street Renaming Committee. Several community projects to which Mr. Davis has given much of his time include the Newton Community Chest, Newton Chapter of the American Red Cross, Newton-Wellesley Hospital and the Salvation Army in their respective campaigns for funds.

Mr. Davis is also a Director of the Newton Rotary Club, E. C. Hilliard Corp., West Newton Cooperative Bank and the Newton Chamber of Commerce. He, too, is National Councilman to the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

Today, Mr. Davis, a respected and responsible citizen and one who always has his eyes open to the beauties and opportunities offered by our City, and who, too, sees the full significance of the many things that bring comfort and happiness to the citizenry, will be interviewed concerning a problem that for a long time has caused much confusion. His message specifically pertains to the names of streets in the Garden City.

It is my happy privilege, Bill, to present to you Honorable Joseph B. Davis, Chairman of the Street Renaming Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Davis, here's Bill Sherman, your interviewer, and Special Events Director of Radi Station WCRB.

Next week for our 43rd Broadcast we will present Honorable Riley J. Hampton, Chairman of the Public Buildings Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

WCRB RADIO BROADCAST
HONORABLE JOSEPH B. DAVIS
CHAIRMAN
STREET RENAMING COMMITTEE
NEWTON BOARD OF ALDERMEN

June 12, 1950

- MR. DAVIS: Good afternoon, Bill, and thanks for the opportunity to tell our Newton neighbors about a problem that has been increasing through the years, and has for a long time caused so much confusion that we've now got to face it and do something definite about it. The problem I'm talking about is the many duplications of street names throughout the City.
- BILL SHERMAN: We're mighty glad to have you with us today, Mr. Davis, and I know our listeners are going to be interested in knowing just how much of a problem this duplication you speak of really is and how you propose to solve it. I take it, from what you've just said, that the problem is pretty old.
- MR. DAVIS: Well, Bill, you might say its seeds were planted 'way back in 1639, when John Jackson, our first permanent settler, launched Newton - or, Cambridge Village, as it was then called - as a going community. As more settlers followed Jackson, and looked for more elbow-room in different parts of the community, streets were laid out to connect the various scattered sections. Those streets were given names. Of course, there was no duplication of names three hundred years ago. But what I meant when I said that the seeds of our present-day problem were sown then, was simply that the growing populations's natural need of more and more streets opened the way, down the years, for today's duplication of names.
- BILL SHERMAN: I see what you mean, Mr. Davis. In those early days, I suppose, laying out and naming streets was all a sort of unplanned, hit-or-miss procedure.
- MR. DAVIS: I imagine you're right, Bill. As time went on, streets in different villages happened to be given similar names. That probably didn't matter too much in the old days - even, say, when Newton was chartered as a City in 1873. But today, with our population of around 84,000 people, and still growing rapidly, the Planning Board feels that the time has come when something

should be promptly done to remedy the confusion that has resulted from the many duplications. The logical thing to do is to rename certain streets. After sounding out citizens, here and there, we are confident that most of the residents living on the streets we propose to rename, will favor the idea.

BILL SHERMAN: You know, Mr. Davis, I've thought of that confusion of names many a time. I've even been the victim of it. I remember going to see a man who had told me his address was Adams Street. Maybe I was only half listening, but, anyway, I told him I knew where Adams Street was. So I went there - over in West Newton. When I got there I found it was really Adams Avenue - and on making some inquiries I discovered that Adams Street was down near Newton Corner.

MR. DAVIS: That's a good example, Bill, of what I'm talking about. Another one that I'm picking at random, and that's even more confusing, is North Street. There's a North Street in Newtonville, and another North Street in Newton Centre. Both called "street", you see. I could give you a lot more illustrations - like Lake Avenue in Newton Highlands and Lake Avenue in Auburndale; Orchard Avenue in West Newton and another Orchard Avenue in Waban; Upland Road in Newtonville and also in Waban. Those, of course, are exact duplications. Then there are many streets that have the same first name, so to speak, but are called either street or road or terrace or avenue. That isn't too bad, when, say, such-and-such a terrace leads off a street or road or avenue of the same name. But take, for example, Highland Street and Highland Avenue, both in Newtonville - and you get real confusion.

BILL SHERMAN: I said a moment ago, Mr. Davis, that I had been aware of some duplication in street names, but you're beginning to make me suspect that duplication may be 'way beyond what I'd imagined. You have evidently made a careful study of the situation; so you can probably tell me how many such duplications there are in the City.

- MR. DAVIS: Yes, Bill, I can. In Newton, at present, we have about four hundred and fourteen duplications of street names.
- BILL SHERMAN: You certainly amaze me, Mr. Davis. I would never have guessed there were anywhere near so many. But isn't four hundred and fourteen a pretty large percentage of Newton's streets?
- MR. DAVIS: Well, all in all, there are around twelve hundred streets in the City. Their total length is about two hundred and eighty miles. Place them end to end and they'd reach from here to well beyond New York City.
- BILL SHERMAN: I believe those two hundred and eighty miles of streets are spider-webbed into an area of -- well, I did know, Mr. Davis, but you can probably give the exact figure.
- MR. DAVIS: Eighteen square miles, Bill -- that's the area of Newton.
- BILL SHERMAN: So those four hundred and fourteen duplications of street names take in about one-third of all the streets in the City?
- MR. DAVIS: Yes, Bill, that's right. Two hundred and sixty of those duplications are of streets that are adjacent or intersect. Like Cherry Street and Cherry Place in West Newton; Central Street and Central Terrace in Auburndale; and many others. There is no objection, whatever, to such duplication, as I intimated a moment ago. In fact, it is an advantage to have a "terrace" or "place" lead off a street or road of the same name. It makes it easier for strangers to find. But there are some one hundred and fifty widely-separated streets whose names are exactly alike, or very nearly alike. Those streets cause a great deal of confusion.
- BILL SHERMAN: You've made it clear, Mr. Davis, that this is a problem of no mean proportions, and one that should be solved for the best interests of the City. How can it be tackled, Mr. Davis? Who is to do the tackling?
- MR. DAVIS: Well, I'll repeat that the only solution of the problem is to rename those one hundred and fifty streets. The Board of Aldermen has the authority to do that. It has the authority to regulate the naming of streets, old and new, just as it has the authority to determine the widths of streets and

sidewalks, and the connecting of streets so as not to make dead ends which would be a hindrance to the Fire Department and to traffic, in general.

BILL SHERMAN: You are the Chairman of the Street Renaming Committee, I understand, Mr. Davis.

MR. DAVIS: Yes, Bill, I have that honor, and my associates are Aldermen Buse, Cannon, Merrill, Rich, Scipione and Terkelsen.

BILL SHERMAN: I know them all, Mr. Davis, and I'm sure that whatever you and they do will be for the good of the City as a whole. In a moment I'm going to ask you what the procedure of changing street names will be. But I'd like to digress just a bit and ask you just how old some of Newton's streets are. Can you tell us? I'm sure our listeners would be interested.

MR. DAVIS: It happens that I can tell you, Bill, because in studying the whole problem, we've checked on that very point. I'll give you the dates of the official acceptance of a few of our present-day streets. Nonantum, Washington and Waverley Streets were accepted in 1678; Beacon and Chestnut Streets in 1702; Walnut in 1706; Greenwood in 1711; Elliott, Cook and Winchester in 1713; Fuller in 1725; Centre, Florence and Jackson in 1726; Auburn in 1729; Church in 1735; and Woodland in 1762.

BILL SHERMAN: Those streets are certainly rooted deep in Newton's history, Mr. Davis. I suppose they're all included in the list of streets whose names have been duplicated.

MR. DAVIS: That's right, Bill, but the names of those main streets won't be changed. They're landmarks. There may, however, be some changes in minor streets or private ways with similar names.

BILL SHERMAN: Now, to get back to the question I said I'd ask. Would you be willing to tell us what steps the Street Renaming Committee will take in actually making these changes of names?

MR. DAVIS: Certainly, Bill. A while ago, I mentioned that the Street Renaming Committee felt the only solution to the problem is to rename certain streets. I'm sure that every citizen understanding the problem will agree.

I also said that the Aldermanic Board has the authority to change the names of any streets, as it may see fit. But I want to make this very clear: in giving streets new names, the Street Renaming Committee earnestly and sincerely wants the residents on those streets to be satisfied with the suggested names. We're not just going to sit down in a Committee Room and decide that this street will have this new name, and that street will have that new name. The name should please the majority of the people living on the street.

BILL SHERMAN: Mr. Davis, has your Committee already made up a list of suggested names? Picking a hundred and fifty suitable names sounds like a good deal of a job.

MR. DAVIS: Well, Bill, it did take a lot of thinking and comparing, to be sure that in removing present duplications we didn't add some new ones. But we think we've established a pretty good list now - names with dignity and character, that we don't believe anyone could object to. Besides, wherever possible, we've picked new names with the same initial letters as the old ones.

BILL SHERMAN: I think it's especially commendable, Mr. Davis, that although the Board of Aldermen has the right to change street names at will, it still is anxious to defer the streets affected to the residents. In other words, Mr. Davis, you are making this a cooperative project between the City and its citizens - and I know you'll find them already to recognize the need for changes in names and to cooperate with you.

MR. DAVIS: I'm sure of that - because Newton people have a very strong civic spirit and have always shown themselves ready to respond when their assistance has been asked.

BILL SHERMAN: Just one more question, Mr. Davis. What is going to be your first move in engineering the change-over of names?

MR. DAVIS: I'm glad you brought that up, Bill. Very soon, now, we're going to notify every resident on every street that is to have its name changed. We'll include the new name we've suggested. Naturally, we hope that our carefully considered suggestions will be acceptable - because that will simplify and

speed up the whole project. But - and I want to stress this strongly - if the name suggested is not satisfactory, we want to be told. In addition, we will gladly entertain names selected by the residents of any of the streets to be renamed. If a selection does not involve another duplication, it will be presented to the Board of Aldermen for final action. If more than one name for any particular street is offered by its residents, the one favored by the majority should naturally be chosen. Or it may, in some cases, even seem best to pick one at random from the list submitted to the Board. In any case, Bill, we really want to please the majority of those residents, and I think we can.

BILL SHERMAN: I'll go even further and say I'm sure you can. Now, thank you, Alderman Davis, Chairman of the Newton Street Renaming Committee, for the opportunity of discussing this important matter with you.

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CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
HONORABLE RILEY J. HAMPTON
BY

HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

June 19, 1950

Greetings, Bill:

This afternoon we broadcast for the 43rd time in this Series of Informational Programs, designed to acquaint the Newton citizens with municipal operations and responsibilities.

We are privileged today to present Alderman-At-Large Riley J. Hampton, Chairman of the Public Buildings Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Hampton was born in Chico, California. He attended grade and high school in Illinois and Texas, and received his higher education at Pace Institute and Boston and Columbia Universities.

Mr. Hampton came to Newton in 1930. He resides in Newtonville, is married, and is a member of St. John's Episcopal Church of which he is a Past Junior Warden and former Vestryman.

Mr. Hampton was elected to the Board in 1949 and saw service on the Franchises & Licenses and Public Buildings Committee in that year.

Currently, our speaker is a member of the Franchises & Licenses, Education and Ward Lines Committees in addition to his duties as Chairman of the Public Buildings Committee.

In the business world, Mr. Hampton is a Staff Assistant at Raytheon Manufacturing Company.

He served his country in the U. S. Marine Corps in World War I.

During World War II Mr. Hampton served as an Air Raid Warden; also, as a member of the Soldiers and Sailors Recreation Committee; Chairman, Entertainment Committee and Member of House Committee of the Buddies Club on Boston Common, and Chairman, at Raytheon, for Third War Bond Drive.

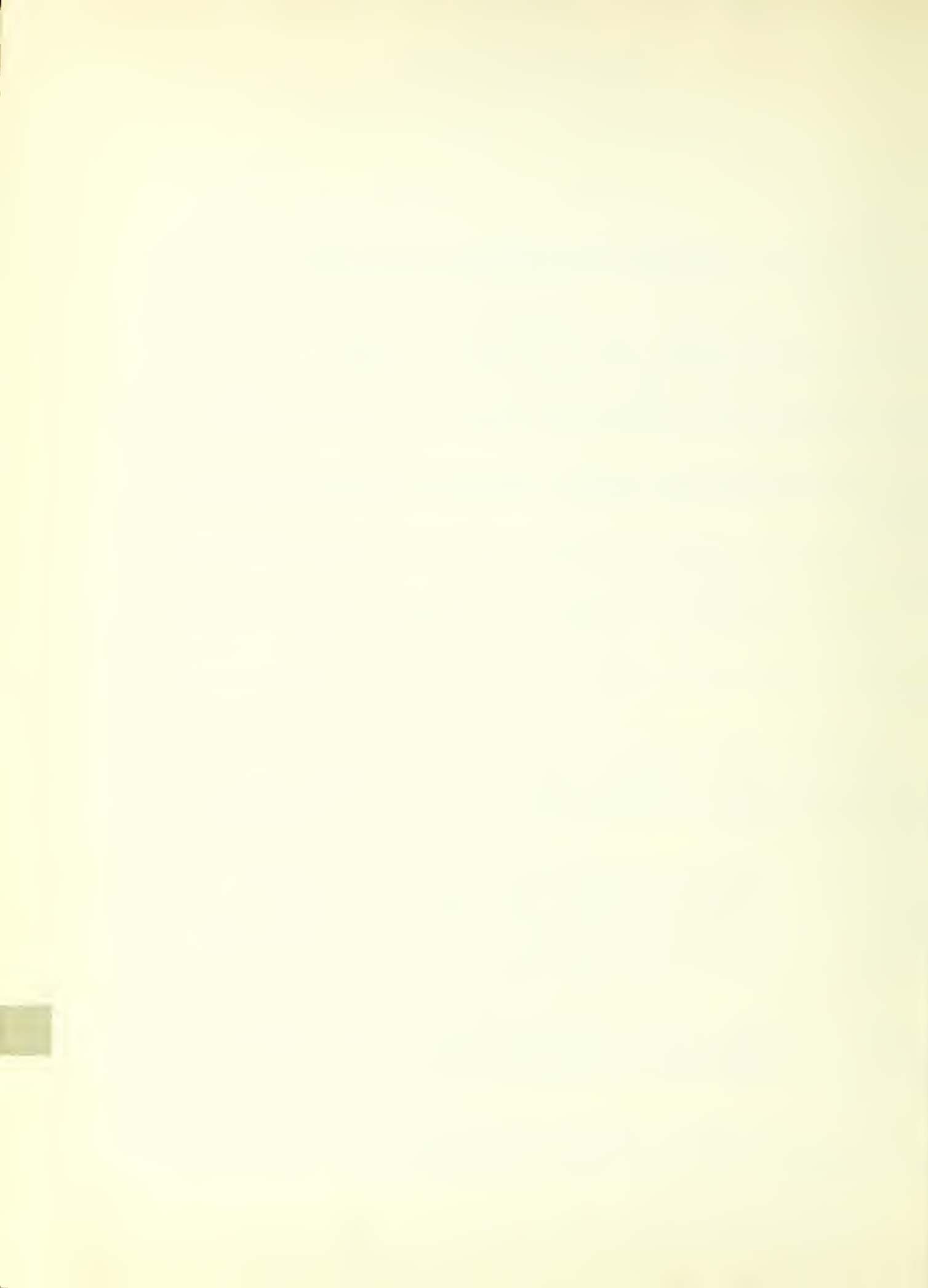
His civic interests include the Chairmanship of the Newton Community Chest 1949 Campaign for Funds, Chairman of Publicity for the 1950 Chest Campaign. Also, he served as Chairman for the Newton-Wellesley Hospital 1949 Building Fund Campaign. Currently, he is Chairman of the Newton Chapter of the American Red Cross Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee. Mr. Hampton is a Director of the Stone Institute and Home for Aged People, Newton Community Chest and the Salvation Army, Waltham.

Today, Mr. Hampton, a person whose way of life is based upon principles of humanity and service to his fellow men and whose definite aims and goals contribute much that is worthwhile to our people, will be interviewed not on the subject Public Buildings, but more specifically on Disaster Relief Responsibility of the American Red Cross through its Newton Chapter.

Bill, it is my privilege to present to you Honorable Riley J. Hampton, Chairman of the Public Buildings Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen, and Chairman, Newton Chapter, American Red Cross Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee.

Next week, Bill, for our 44th and last Broadcast 'til September, we will have with us - - - Honorable Harold B. Buse, Chairman of the Legislation Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen.

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WCRB RADIO BROADCAST
HONORABLE WILEY J. HAMPTON
CHAIRMAN
PUBLICS BUILDING COMMITTEE
NEWTON BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPEAKING AS CHAIRMAN OF
THE RED CROSS DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS AND RELIEF COMMITTEE

June 19, 1950

- B. Sherman - Mr. Hampton, We expected to hear you talk today as Chairman of the Public Buildings Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen, but I hear that you have chosen to talk as Chairman of the Red Cross Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee.
- R. H. - That's right Mr. Sherman! Our Building Commissioner Mr. Campbell, recently gave you the information about Public Buildings over this microphone so I would like to explain the possible use of Public Buildings in the case of disaster. I believe our listeners will be interested in how the Red Cross Disaster Committee is prepared to act in an emergency.
- B. Sherman - That surely will be interesting. I am personally curious, especially after reading about the train wreck on Long Island, the Floods in the Middle West, the snow storms in the Plains States and far west as well as the recent explosion in New Jersey. We always hear or read that the Red Cross has been called-- will you tell us what the Red Cross does?
- R. H. - That is a lot of questions rolled into one, so perhaps I should start at the beginning. First of all, a Red Cross Chapter must have Volunteer Chairmen and Committees organized for certain functions in order

to obtain and retain its charter. The Disaster Preparedness and Relief Committee is one of these. Within the Disaster Committee are eleven (11) Sub-Committees, each of which has a chairman and a vice-chairman. Each Committee is trained to go into efficient action within one hour or less after receiving a call that their service is required.

. Sherman - Riley, will you tell me how these men and women can get into action in less than an hour when some of them work in Boston or other towns equally distant from Newton?

. H. - Yes! Bill. Some members of each Committee live and work in Newton. The Chairman or Vice Chairman is expected to be or have someone of his committee at the Chapter House or at the scene of the disaster as required within thirty minutes even though he works in Boston. There are over 400 Volunteers on the various committees.

. Sherman - Who notifies Red Cross that a Disaster has occurred?

. H. - Normally, it is the Police or Fire Department who call the Disaster chairman or one of the four Vice Chairmen if the Chairman cannot be reached. The Chairman or Vice Chairman contacted then calls the Survey Committee to investigate and report what services are needed. He alerts chairman of all Sub-Committees and as soon as the survey report is received, calls out those services which are required. If less

If less than five families are involved, the Red Cross Home Service Director, Mrs. Chase, is called. She follows through to meet the emergency needs.

Sherman - Riley, will you tell us what these committees are?

- Yes! Bill, I can name them but there isn't time to tell of all the things each is prepared to do for relief. The committee name will indicate their function which is all inclusive.

The committees are -

Survey Committee.

Warning, Rescue and Evacuation Committee.

Medical and Nursing Aid Committee.

Food Committee. This may require only the regular Red Cross Canteen Service assisted by the Transportation Committee or it may require the full Food Committee to feed hundreds of people.

Shelter Committee. This is the one which involves Public Buildings. It may be Schools, Churches, large Halls or even homes that can accommodate some people.

The Clothing Committee. will supply emergency clothing.

The Transportation Committee is prepared to assist with an ambulance, a mobile canteen, trucks or Passenger cars for ~~whatever~~ transportation is required.

The Communication Committee has three Sub-Committees.

Chairman in charge of Telephone and Telegraph.

Chairman in charge of Radio with a Receiving and sending station in the chapter house.

Contact can be made with other stations in Newton as well as throughout the nation.

Chairman in charge of Couriers. This group will go into action if other lines of communication are put out of commission.

The Registration and Information Committee.

This group will register those requiring relief and secure information on what is needed for rehabilitation - also receive and reply to all welfare inquiries from anywhere in the U.S.

The public Information Committee will keep the public informed on all necessary phases of the disaster.

The Central Purchase and Supply Committee will be on the job to purchase all supplies required beyond those emergency materials available at the chapter house.

. Sherman - That is an imposing list and it appears that Red Cross is prepared for any emergency. Will you explain how you have trained all of these people for their part of the job?

. H. - Well Bill, we have had several meetings of the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of all Committees at the Chapter House to discuss each problem. They, in turn have had individual meetings to organize and discuss their problems. At one of our meetings we gave each Chairman a possible disaster in Newton and asked him to report the action his committee would take. Each

Chairman reported in detail at the next meeting. I wish everyone in Newton could have heard those reports. I am sure they would be happy to know that these committees are so thoroughly prepared.

B. Sherman - Riley, what was that meeting in Gardner Auditorium at the State House? Wasn't that something to do with Civilian Defense as well as Red Cross Disaster Relief?

R. H. - Bill, with so many questions directed to me, it is easy to understand that your mind is active. Each question you've asked would require an hour or more and you give me 14 minutes to answer all of them. Yes, Civilian Defense and Red Cross are working very closely. Each will supplement the other. Over 700 persons from all parts of Massachusetts attended the morning session at the State House which was devoted to Civilian Defense and was attended by 12 persons from Mayor Lockwood's Staff and 23 persons from Red Cross. The afternoon session was devoted to the problems that are handled by the Red Cross Disaster Committee. You will hear more of both of these activities through the Radio and Newspapers in the coming weeks.

B. Sherman - Riley, I would like to ask one more question. What plans has your committee for the near future?

R. H. - Bill, the answer is that we are planning a Trial Disaster this Fall. We plan to assume that a disaster has happened and call out each of the committees to bring relief to those affected. You will hear more

about this at the proper time. The purpose is to give each committee a chance to go into action and test the things they have learned at the various meetings.

Summing it all, Bill, the authority under which the American Red Cross assumes responsibility for the relief of people suffering from disaster is stated in its Congressional Charter. Red Cross responsibility in disaster relief, and financed by Red Cross solely, is to assist families and individuals to the extent that their needs are disaster caused and cannot be met by the families themselves either promptly or adequately under emergency conditions. Red Cross Aid is always free. No payment of any kind is asked or expected. Any aid or assistance given is based entirely on need rather than loss. It is considered important to put a disaster victim back into business when the need exists so he can again be self supporting.

CITY OF NEWTON
PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM
INTRODUCTION OF
ROBERT L. ARMSTRONG, SUPERINTENDENT
EAST MIDDLESEX MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT
BY
HAROLD T. PILSBURY, DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

August 7, 1950

Good Afternoon, Bill:

We are pleased to be with you again. Also, we are grateful for the use of WCRB facilities to bring to our Citizens pertinent information regarding Mosquito Control in this area.

Today, it is our privilege to present Mr. Robert L. Armstrong, Superintendent of the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project. Our speaker is a native of Sandwich on the Cape, and resides in Westford, Massachusetts. He recieved his higher education at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, majored in Entomology and graduated with a B. S. Degree.

Mr. Armstrong has been identified with Mosquito Control Projects since 1945, and he came to Newton in 1947.

Today, Mr. Armstrong, in person, will acquaint us with the objectives and accomplishments of this most important health measure.

It is my happy privilege, Bill, to present to you and through you to our WCRB listening audience Mr. Robert L. Armstrong, Superintendent of the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project.

Mr. Armstrong, - here's Bill Sherman, Special Events Director of Radio Station WCRB.

THE TOWN OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS
REPORTS ON MOSQUITO CONTROL WORK

August 7, 1930

Q. What is the City of Newton doing to get rid of mosquitoes?

A. Through its Public Works Department, streams are improved and many miles of culverts and drains are built which eliminate stagnant waters that would otherwise produce mosquitoes. Through its Health Department and its participation membership in the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project, a direct attack is made on mosquitoes with insecticides and additional drainage work is done in areas outside the jurisdiction of the Public Works Department.

Q. Will complete drainage of all our wet areas in Newton entirely eliminate the mosquitoes?

A. Regardless of what you may have in mind when you say "complete" drainage - the answer is No. If all the water was removed from ponds, swamps, meadows and low places, and if no water was allowed to accumulate in catch basins, tin cans, roof gutters and other containers, there would be no place for mosquitoes to propagate in Newton, but there would be the problem of adult mosquitoes flying in from uncontrolled areas. Furthermore, it is not wise or desirable to eliminate all ponds and streams. You wouldn't want to do away with the Charles River or the beautiful ponds and reservoirs in Newton.

Q. Of course not. But mosquitoes don't breed in large ponds and rivers. Or do they? I've heard that they required stagnant water.

A. That is usually the case. Most of the larger ponds and streams are unsuitable for mosquito breeding, especially if the margins are clean and steep. Sometimes when vegetation grows in such waters, it provides opportunity for mosquitoes to breed. And again, when there is floatage or pollution of such waters, mosquitoes will soon appear.

Q. Then what about our ponds here in Newton? Are they in good condition?

A. For the most part they are. The Mosquito Control Project has to watch them in mid and late summer and occasionally some spraying is required.

Q. You refer to the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project, do you not? What does that organization have to do with the City of Newton and its anti mosquito campaign?

A. The East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project unites the efforts of Newton and nine other cities and towns in an organized mosquito control campaign. Each municipality has its own mosquito control budget and pays for its own labor and materials and shares in the cost of spray equipment, vehicles and office costs of the Project. Newton has been a member of this mosquito control district since 1947. The adjoining towns of Brookline, Watertown, Wellesley and Weston and the City of Waltham are also included in the mosquito control district and four other nearby municipalities.

Q. The district does not include all of Middlesex County?

A. No. It includes only eight towns and cities in Middlesex and there are ten in Norfolk County. However, these ten municipalities form a single unit area of about 100 square miles and that is a distinct advantage for mosquito control work.

Q. Who runs this mosquito control district?

A. It is run by the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Commission, a board of ten men. Mr. Harlan Kingsbury of your Newton Health Department is the member representing your city. The members of the Commission receive no compensation for their duties with the Mosquito Control Project. The State Reclamation Board and its experts assist and advise our Commission in its work.

Q. Didn't Newton carry on mosquito control work alone in past years? How did the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project happen to be organized?

A. Newton through its Health Department and with the aid of other city departments did its own mosquito control work until 1947. Several other towns and cities were doing the same thing. Results were not always satisfactory, because some adjacent communities did little or nothing about mosquitoes. Forestry Division equipment was used but it was not always available as needed because it was difficult for a single community to get the personnel and equipment for mosquito control work within

a reasonable expenditure. The organization was started in 1946 when Arlington

Belmont, Cambridge, Lexington, Watertown and Waltham joined forces for a concerted anti mosquito campaign. Under provisions of Chapter 252 General Law of the State of Massachusetts, a Commission was formed to organize the control work. Each municipality had a representative on the Commission. This Commission, with the help of the State Sanitation Board, made an estimate of the probable annual cost of the mosquito control work in each municipality and recommended that such sums be appropriated. The various town meetings and city councils or boards of aldermen appropriated funds more or less as recommended. The Commission then gathered men, insecticides, tools and equipment and commenced its work. At first only a few pieces of equipment could be acquired. Each year the pool of sprayers, pumps, trucks and tools was expanded and at the present time, the organization is fairly well equipped.

During the five years it has been in operation, the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project has sprayed all the places where mosquito larva or wiggle could be found and it has also done extensive ditching to drain stagnant waters of swamps, marshes and low areas. It has also cleaned the margins of several ponds.

In 1947, Newton joined the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project and so did Wellesley and Weston. In 1949, Brookline also joined.

Q. In general, how far has the mosquito control work progressed?

A. In a few municipalities there is no more new drainage required. The ditches are kept clean each season and other breeding places are sprayed. Most of the other towns and cities have more drainage work that needs to be done. When this is accomplished, there will be very few mosquitoes produced within the district except from back yard containers and roof gutters.

Q. You mentioned back yard containers. Are they the last resort of the mosquito in this campaign?

A. Not exactly. There are many species of mosquitoes each having its preference for a certain type of water condition. If the mosquito control project can prevent or destroy mosquito breeding in all streams, pools and low lands and even in street catch basins, there would still be opportunity for one species known as the "House Mosquito" to find satisfactory breeding conditions in water containers due to



neglect of the home owner. If water gardens are confined for only a year the House Mosquito may be able to lay eggs and raise a brood of blood thirsty daughters. This back yard breeding must be prevented by the vigilance of the householder to make the project a complete success.

Q. Blood thirsty daughters? What - no boys?

A. Just as many sons as daughters, but the sons - the male mosquitoes - do not bite people.

Q. Oh, yes! I've heard that only the female mosquito bites. That seems most unusual.

A. It is rather strange, but not unusual. A great many biting pests have the same characteristics. Horseflies, deer flies, the black flies of the north woods and the biting gnats so prevalent on the coastal regions all have biting females and non-biting males. Apparently the females must have a blood meal in order to lay eggs and carry on their life cycle.

Q. You said there are many kinds of mosquitoes. How many?

A. There are more than forty species of mosquitoes in this region. Fortunately, less than half of them cause much trouble. In Newton and the rest of the East Middlesex district, there are only 12 species of importance.

Q. Do any of these mosquitoes carry disease?

A. Several species are capable of transmitting diseases of man and animals but in modern times there have been few cases among humans in this region. The activities of mosquito control districts make the hazard even more remote. Thus the main objective of the program is to provide peace and comfort to the citizens.

Q. Are there many mosquito control districts in the state?

A. There are a number of mosquito control areas, but they include only a small portion of the whole state. Some of the control areas do not carry out a complete mosquito control program. For example, many coastal towns have done a lot of drainage work to reduce the salt marsh mosquito, but they have not as yet undertaken measures to control other species of mosquito which breed in upland waters.

Q. Yes, I've heard about the salt marsh mosquitoes. Don't they have them down in New Jersey?

A. They certainly did have a lot of salt marsh mosquitoes in New Jersey and they have made a valiant effort to get rid of these pests. Thousands of acres of tidal marshes have been ditched with the result that this migratory mosquito is tremendously reduced.

Q. You call it a migratory mosquito. Does it fly south with the birds?

A. No, it doesn't fly south, but it will fly several miles. Occasionally we find a few adults of these tidal marsh mosquitoes as far from the coast as Wellesley, and Newton. Recently, one landed on me at my home 25 miles from the coast.

Q. That mosquito sure travelled a long way to square accounts with you. Was it a jet propelled model?

A. Propelled by an easterly breeze, no doubt. There is a record of a swarm of salt marsh mosquitoes landing on a vessel 75 miles at sea. The normal flight movement of this species is only a few miles depending somewhat on the number of concentration at the breeding area. Most of our species travel much less. The house mosquito stays pretty close to its home. So, the person who lets water accumulate in a receptacle is the one most likely to get bitten, as well as his immediate neighbors.

Q. You might say the mosquito bites the hand that feeds it!

A. That's right. This is one case where neglect brings swift retribution.

Q. How would you advise the people so that they can cooperate to best advantage in this fight against mosquitoes?

A. I would advise people first, to prevent water from accumulating in any unused receptacle. Unused automobile tires are the most common back yard mosquito sources and cans and pails come next. Barrels, tubs, metal wheelbarrows, boats and ash barrels are frequently sources of mosquitoes. Second, I would ask people to put their garbage and rubbish cans under cover when they go away on vacation. Third, I would ask that ornamental pools be watched carefully. Gold fish in these pools



will prevent mosquito breeding unless there is too much vegetation or the water uses too much fish food. Fourth, I would check on roof gutters, especially in bad weather. Fifth, do not throw rubbish or any material into any drain, culvert or drainage ditch, nor allow children to block a ditch or stream. These waterways are vital to the health and sanitation of the community. They must be kept in order. In fact, there is a serious penalty and fine for blocking or damaging or polluting municipal waterways. Sixth, I would ask that any undue mosquito abundance be quickly reported to the local health office. This will aid the inspectors in locating the source. Seventh and last, I would ask that the people support the recommendation of the Mosquito Control Commission for the annual appropriations. We can keep the mosquito control costs low if people will follow the recommendations first made. Neglect and indifference could make the mosquito control project an expensive failure.

Q. What is the present cost of mosquito control in Newton?

A. The appropriation is \$8,000.00, coming from the Health Department budget. That is a per capita cost of about 10 cents.

Q. Ten cents seems a very small price for mosquito control. What does it cost in other places?

A. The cost varies with the size of the mosquito problem, the density of the population and the type of control program. For example, the City of Cambridge has a large population and a moderate mosquito problem. The per capita cost there is about 3 cents. In Weston there is a small population and a lot of mosquito breeding area. Here the per capita cost is about \$1.30. Moreover, in Weston there is a lot of drainage work to be done before the degree of mosquito relief will approach that in the more urban places.

Q. Tell me more about the methods you are using and the equipment you operate.

A. During the mosquito breeding season, which extends from early in April until late in September, we try to spray insecticide on all the waters where mosquito larvae can be found. When this spraying does not require all our labor and equipment,



Drainage operations are carried out when conditions are so unfavorable that more spraying is required than we can accomplish with our own crews, we endeavor for aeroplanes or helicopter spraying to support the program. Our men use small hand squirt cans, larger knapsack sprayers and power sprayers mounted on vehicles or carried in a boat.

- Q. You said that you try to spray breeding places wherever you find mosquito larvae. What about adult mosquitoes that happen to get away from some unsuspected source or those which come into the district from outside?
- A. With few exceptions, we believe that it is more economical to prevent mosquitoes from breeding by drainage and to treat the larvae with insecticide than it is to try to destroy adult mosquitoes after they have spread all over the countryside. It is true, however, that adult mosquitos can be killed with very light applications of certain insecticides when diffused over the countryside as a fog or a mist, over wide areas. That is my experience.
- Q. How does Newton stand with regard to the drainage program?
- A. Most of the drainage should be accomplished within two or three years. Part of this will be done by the Mosquito Control Project. However, the improvement of the larger streams, is the responsibility of the City. After ditches and streams are dug, they must be kept in good condition year after year. Changes and additions have to be made as a result of new building and highway construction.

